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18 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
19 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 SHAWNE ALSTON, on behalf of himself and  
21 all others similarly situated,

22 Plaintiff,

23 v.

24 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC  
25 ASSOCIATION; PACIFIC 12 CONFERENCE;  
26 THE BIG TEN CONFERENCE, INC.; THE  
27 BIG TWELVE CONFERENCE, INC.;  
28 SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE; and  
ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE,

Defendant.

No.

COMPLAINT

CLASS ACTION

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION .....	1
II. THE PARTIES .....	7
A. Plaintiff .....	7
B. Defendants .....	10
C. Co-Conspirators .....	16
III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE .....	16
IV. THE RELEVANT MARKET .....	18
A. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market is Distinct .....	19
B. Grants-in-Aid are Commercial Transactions .....	22
C. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market Constitutes a Separate Market from NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA, and Community / Junior Colleges .....	23
D. There is Robust Competition Among NCAA Members in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market to Recruit and Retain College Football Players .....	25
E. NCAA Members' Competition is Constrained by the Unlawful Grant-in-Aid Cap .....	26
F. The Relevant Geographic Market .....	28
V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS .....	30
A. An Overview of the NCAA .....	30
1. The NCAA's history .....	30
2. The NCAA's basic structure. ....	32
3. The NCAA's purpose. ....	34
4. The NCAA's detailed governance structure .....	35
5. The NCAA Manual. ....	35
6. The NCAA's enforcement structure .....	36
B. The NCAA Bylaw Challenged in this Litigation .....	40
1. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives exist .....	44

1	C.	The NCAA's Public Statements Regarding the Pro-competitive Nature of the Proposed Stipend and Absence of Pro-competitive Justifications for Capping Compensation at Current Levels .....	52
2			
3	1.	2014 Statements.....	52
4	2.	2013 Statements.....	53
5	3.	2012 Statements.....	55
6	4.	2011 Statements.....	56
7	5.	2003 Statements.....	57
8	6.	The recent history of the latest stipend proposal. ....	58
9	D.	NCAA Conferences' Statements Regarding the Stipend Proposal .....	64
10	1.	The Pac 12. ....	64
11	2.	The Southeastern Conference.....	66
12	3.	The Big Ten.....	69
13	4.	The Big 12. ....	71
14	5.	The Atlantic Coast Conference. ....	72
15	E.	Football Bowl Subdivision Football Players Seek the Ability to Compete without Anti-competitive Restraint in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.....	72
16			
17	F.	Other Statements Supporting the Stipend Proposal.....	73
18	G.	NCAA Members Statements against the Stipend Proposal Show that Opposition is Not Based on Valid Antitrust Defenses, but Rather Serve Primarily as Cost-Cutting Efforts or as Means of substituting the Judgment of the Cartel for that of the Market .....	74
19			
20	H.	Major College Football Is a Highly Commercialized Business, not a Charitable Endeavor .....	78
21			
22	I.	Former NCAA Executive Director, Walter Byers, Makes Clear in his Book that the Purpose of NCAA rules is to Fix Prices .....	87
23			
24	J.	Reality of College-Athlete Life .....	90
25	K.	Defendants' Likely Affirmative Defenses Do Not Apply.....	93
26	1.	Academic consensus that amateurism is a façade. ....	93
27	2.	"Amateur College Athletics," "Amateur College Football," and "Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Football" all will continue to exist. ....	96
28			

1	3.	Competitive balance will not be impacted. ....	100
2	4.	Emmert Statements regarding inter-conference competition (other than with respect to the alleged collusion) and the lack of competitive balance within Division I. ....	103
3			
4	5.	Education will remain a condition of athlete eligibility. ....	104
5	VI.	INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE .....	104
6	VII.	CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS .....	106
7	VIII.	ANTITRUST ALLEGATIONS .....	108
8		FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF <i>PER SE</i> VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Against All Defendants) .....	108
9			
10		SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE “ <i>QUICK LOOK</i> ” RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants) .....	110
11			
12		THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE FULL RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants) .....	112
13			
14		FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF VIOLATION OF THE UNFAIR COMPETITION ACT, CALIFORNIA BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200, <i>et seq.</i> (Against the NCAA and the PAC 12) .....	114
15			
16		PRAYER FOR RELIEF .....	115
17		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL .....	116

Plaintiff Shawne Alston on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, hereby brings class action claims against Defendant National Collegiate Athletic Association (“NCAA”), and five of the most powerful members of the NCAA, the so-called “Power Conferences,” *i.e.*, Defendants Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., Southeastern Conference, and Atlantic Coast Conference (the Power Conferences are also collectively referred to herein as the “Power Conference Defendants”). Plaintiff, by and through his attorneys, alleges as follows:

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. College football is a big business for the universities and conferences that are members of Division I, the NCAA’s top-tier. In particular, Division I football, played in the Power Conferences within Division I’s Football Bowl Subdivision, generates billions of dollars a year in revenue. Not a single dollar of that revenue, however, would exist if it were not for the efforts of the Football Bowl Subdivision football players themselves.

2. Players are essentially working full-time football jobs and going to school. The NCAA and Power Conference Defendants have studied and acknowledged that a so-called “full ride” scholarship does not cover the full cost of attending school. Athletes are often a few thousand dollars short for the typical expenses of a student. These costs include money for gas, food, and other necessities. While players scrimp, coaches and universities most certainly do not. The average salary for major college football coaches is over \$2 million, with some coaches earning over seven million. The top football schools earn enormous amounts from football. For example, team annual revenue for some of the top five programs in 2011-12 was as follows:

Texas:	\$109,000,000
Michigan:	\$ 85,229,247
Alabama:	\$ 81,993,762
Auburn:	\$ 77,170,242
Georgia:	\$ 74,989,418

3. Revenue is not the only large number, profits are also high. Alabama’s football program made \$47 million in 2012 and Texas made \$81 million. Other schools are as follows:

<b>Top 10 schools for 2012 profit</b>	
<b><u>School</u></b>	<b><u>Profit</u></b>
Texas	\$81.7
Alabama	\$47.1
Michigan	\$58.4
Notre Dame	\$46.0
Georgia	\$51.3
Auburn	\$38.8
Florida	\$49.1
LSU	\$48.5
Oklahoma	\$45.1
Arkansas	\$31.6 <sup>1</sup>

4. How is it that players cannot even make ends meet while the schools make tens of millions? The NCAA and the Power Conferences have agreed that Football Bowl Subdivision football players may only receive payments that the NCAA approves and the Power Conference schools agree to. The primary form of payment is an athletic scholarship, formally known as a “grant-in-aid.” The NCAA and Power Conferences have agreed to unlawfully cap the value of a grant-in-aid at an amount substantially below what a Football Bowl Subdivision football player would receive for his services in a competitive market, and at an amount below what it costs to attend school. This agreement violates the Sherman Act.

5. The value of a grant-in-aid is often several thousand dollars below the actual cost of attending a school (the “Cost of Attendance,” an amount published by each school). In the highly competitive marketplace of Power Conference football, every Football Bowl Subdivision football player unquestionably would receive a grant-in-aid that actually covers the Cost of Attendance. Indeed, as shown in great detail below, each of the five Power Conference Defendants stated that if they were not bound by the collusive agreement among themselves and their co-conspirators that comprise Division I, they would implement such an increase. Moreover, if collusion among

<sup>1</sup> Read more here: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/12/17/5427172/expenses-rise-in-business-of-college.html#storylink=cpy>.

1 conferences were eliminated, every Football Bowl Subdivision football player likely would receive  
2 further *additional* compensation above the Cost of Attendance.

3         6. Plaintiff, on behalf of Football Bowl Subdivision football players who played on  
4 teams in the Power Conferences and who received grants-in-aid in the last four years, seeks two  
5 specific remedies via this Complaint. First, an injunction that enjoins the NCAA and the Power  
6 Conference Defendants from maintaining and abiding by the present NCAA Bylaw that limits  
7 financial aid to the presently-defined GIA; and Second, an award of damages for the difference  
8 between the grants-in-aid awarded and the Cost of Attendance. Plaintiff believes that the requested  
9 injunction will result in a less restricted and more competitive marketplace for the services of  
10 Football Bowl Subdivision football players. In that marketplace, most, if not all, Football Bowl  
11 Subdivision football players will obtain future compensation in an amount no less than the Cost of  
12 Attendance.

13         7. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants'  
14 current anti-competitive practices. For example, one less restrictive alternative may be to allow the  
15 Power Conference Defendants to compete among themselves and against their co-conspirator  
16 conferences within Football Bowl Subdivision as to the financial aid terms that conference members  
17 will make available to college football players. Such incremental competition would allay the fears  
18 (even though unfounded) of those that decry the repercussions of an instantaneous transition to a  
19 wide-open free market, with every school making its own independent decisions.

20         8. The NCAA, through its President, Mark Emmert, repeatedly acknowledged that the  
21 capped grant-in-aid is insufficient to meet even the basic economic needs of college athletes. He  
22 stated in December 2013 that, "we've been working on that for 2½ years. They were talking about  
23 that long before I showed up. We don't need a lawsuit to do the right thing. That's important for  
24 people to know."<sup>2</sup> In fact, the NCAA created the issue in the first place, by first imposing a collusive  
25 cap on grants-in-aid in 1956, and then by removing a Cost of Attendance stipend in 1973. Ever  
26 since, the NCAA has periodically been "working" on the issue, with no significant changes to the

27         <sup>2</sup> [http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-](http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/)  
28 [obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/).

1 capped grant-in-aid limitations. Despite the NCAA's public comments concerning the needs of  
2 college athletes, the collusive cap on grants-in-aid remains in place.

3 9. At a typical NCAA member institution, however, the allowable costs covered by an  
4 athletics "grant-in-aid" are in fact several thousand dollars short, per year, per athlete, compared to  
5 what it actually costs a college athlete to attend school. The NCAA quite accurately calls the larger  
6 cost number the "Cost of Attendance," which the NCAA defines in its rules as "an amount calculated  
7 by an institutional financial aid office, using federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition  
8 and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to  
9 attendance at the institution." Through collusive agreement among all Division I members of the  
10 NCAA, the artificial cap on athletics financial aid is set below the amount of the full Cost of  
11 Attendance that any student would incur to attend the relevant colleges and universities. This  
12 agreement is enshrined in the Bylaws of the NCAA which serve, in essence, as the contract (as in the  
13 Sherman Act's prohibition on any contract, combination, or conspiracy in restraint of trade) among  
14 the conspirators, making the agreement explicit, and authorizing various cartel policing measures  
15 against any school that violates the price-fixing agreement. The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts  
16 athletics financial aid to amounts that are less than the athletes would receive in a competitive market  
17 and then enforces that agreement through threat of sanctions ranging from loss of the ability to  
18 compete (through loss of scholarships) all the way to a full collective boycott of all other members  
19 known colloquially as "the death penalty." The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts athletics financial aid  
20 to amounts that are less than the athletes would receive in a competitive market.

21 10. A 2012 study concluded that "[i]n 2011-2012, the range of out-of-pocket expenses for  
22 a 'full' scholarship athlete in the Football Bowl Subdivision was \$1000/year to \$6904/year  
23 depending on the institution. Meanwhile, the NCAA restricts the value of the full scholarship to a  
24 level of compensation that is at or below the poverty level for many athletes at a time when,  
25 according to President of IMG College, Ben Sutton, 'college sport is indisputably on fire' in terms of  
26 its capacity to generate revenue and television ratings."

27 11. By denying Football Bowl Subdivision football players, both those who play in the  
28 Power Conferences and those against whom they compete within the Football Bowl Subdivision



1 market, the benefits of economic competition, the grant-in-aid cap has imposed a lower standard of  
2 living and significant hardships on many of them. Those athletes have much less time and ability to  
3 earn money through part-time jobs than do other students. Those athletes are more likely to come  
4 from low-income households than other students. Those athletes are more likely to incur substantial  
5 travel costs to attend school than other students. Indeed, the NCAA has exacerbated the effects of  
6 the grant-in-aid cap by collusively restricting the ability of Class Members to earn extra money  
7 through part-time work.

8 12. The NCAA's conduct violates the federal antitrust laws. The NCAA, the Power  
9 Conferences, and their member schools have illegally colluded to artificially depress the value of an  
10 athletics grant-in-aid, to the economic detriment of Plaintiff and Class Members. The NCAA and its  
11 members have further agreed not to compete with respect to grants-in-aid for athletes. The artificial  
12 cap on grants-in-aid is set well below what schools would choose to offer to athletes in the absence  
13 of collusion. And it is clear that among members of the Power Conference Defendants, non-  
14 collusive scholarship offers would rise to at least cover the full Cost of Attendance, and likely much  
15 more. The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts athletics financial aid to amounts that are less than the  
16 athletes would receive in a competitive market.

17 13. There is no reasonable justification or legal defense for the athletics grant-in-aid cap.  
18 In particular, the athletics grant-in-aid cap is not necessary to promote any interest in preserving the  
19 NCAA's dubious version of "amateurism." Rather, the NCAA's athletics grant-in-aid cap is simply  
20 a cost containment mechanism that enables the NCAA and its member institutions to preserve more  
21 of the benefits of their lucrative enterprise for themselves.

22 14. After the NCAA's own Board of Governors recently approved a proposal to allow so-  
23 called "stipends" to cover the gap between the capped grants-in-aid and the true Cost of Attendance  
24 as being fully compatible with the principles of "amateurism" as the NCAA defines them, the  
25 NCAA's members overrode that approval and rejected it. The NCAA stated that members rejected  
26 the proposal because of a desire to control costs, and not for a pro-competitive objective. However,  
27 under the antitrust laws, a defendant's desire to save costs – and thereby increase profits at the  
28

1 expense of other participants in the market – is not a legitimate justification for the grant-in-aid cap  
2 or any other horizontal agreement to restrict price or output.

3 15. Defendants have been very successful at suppressing the basic economic rights of  
4 Football Bowl Subdivision football players under their direct control. The NCAA does so, in part,  
5 by cloaking its actions in governmental terminology, such as “Constitution” and “legislation” and  
6 “infraction” to relentlessly reinforce the notion that its powers are coterminous with that of a  
7 governmental regulatory body. But the NCAA is not a governmental entity. It simply is a business,  
8 no different than any other in this country, and should be treated as such.

9 16. The leadership of the NCAA has, for several years, made copious public statements  
10 *directly supporting*, in part, the structural relief that Plaintiff seeks here – the lifting of the artificial  
11 cap on the value of athletics grants-in-aid. The NCAA Board of Directors, rather than arguing that a  
12 cap below the Cost of Attendance is necessary to produce college football, voted for the exact  
13 opposite – demonstrating that such an increase in the cap would have no adverse affects on the sport.  
14 Moreover, the leadership of every major NCAA member conference (including all five of the Power  
15 Conference Defendants) has made similar public statements of support. Additionally, numerous  
16 high-profile school administrators and coaches have also made similar public statements of support.  
17 And yet, year after year, no actual change is made.

18 17. Defendants insist on acting collectively and collusively with each other, or not acting  
19 at all. But they also admit that it is their collusion with other NCAA members that prevents them  
20 from acting. Why? Because they all have agreed to be bound by outmoded and anti-competitive  
21 NCAA Bylaws. Defendants thus repeatedly claim powerlessness, year after year, to change their  
22 lucrative status quo, because smaller NCAA members will not agree to the change. Were the Power  
23 Conference Defendants to act independently, each would raise the grant-in-aid cap above the current  
24 levels. Defendants have proven to be unable to, in the words of NCAA President Emmert, “self-  
25 regulate.” Plaintiff requests this Court’s assistance to require Defendants to comply with the law.  
26  
27  
28

## II. THE PARTIES

### A. Plaintiff

18. Plaintiff Shawne Alston, an individual, is a resident of Newport News, Virginia and the former starting running back for the West Virginia University football team.

19. Plaintiff Shawne Alston was a heavily recruited three star athlete from Hampton, Virginia. In high school, Alston ran for over 2400 yards and 38 touchdowns and was named a first team all-state running back after leading Phoebus High School to a Virginia state championship during his senior year.

20. The football star received scholarship offers from West Virginia, East Carolina, Illinois, Maryland, and Penn State. Each school offered an athletic scholarship covering the Cost of Attendance as calculated by the school.

21. West Virginia University's head football Coach, Bill Stewart, for example, offered Alston a "full Football Grant-in-Aid" to attend WVU on or about June 18, 2008. The letter stated: The Grant-in-Aid, beginning Fall 2009, consists of:

- a. Tuition and Registration Fees
- b. Required Course-Related Fees
- c. Room
- d. Meals; and
- e. Required Textbooks.

22. In addition, WVU offered to allow Alston to begin classes in the summer of 2009, under the same terms and conditions outlined in the June 18, 2008 letter. Alston accepted the grant-in-aid and committed to play football and attend school at WVU on or about February 2009 and enrolled at WVU in the summer of 2009.

23. Alston's recruiting class was ranked 19th nationally by Rivals.com, and first in the Big East Conference.

24. Alston played his first football game at WVU in fall 2009, as a true freshman. During the 2009-2010 school year, Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living on-campus. Alston

1 fulfilled all WVU academic and athletic requirements during the 2009-2010 school year, and was a  
2 student in good standing at all times.

3 25. Given his academic and athletic obligations, it was not feasible for Alston to work  
4 during the academic year.

5 26. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for a non-  
6 resident, on-campus student for the 2009-2010 academic year was approximately \$38,920.00. This  
7 figure includes estimated tuition and fees, books and supplies, loan fees, "maintenance," and room  
8 and board. Notably, this figure also includes \$11,776.00 in summer tuition for 2010.

9 27. For the 2009-2010 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU  
10 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

11 28. During his freshman year, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for his  
12 sophomore year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer.

13 29. As a sophomore (2010-2011), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements  
14 to maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.

15 30. Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-campus during his sophomore  
16 year. And like his freshman year, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year  
17 given his academic and athletic obligations.

18 31. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for a non-  
19 resident, off-campus student for the 2010-2011 academic year was approximately \$40,007.00. This  
20 figure includes tuition, books and supplies, lab fees, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and  
21 room and board. Notably, this figure also includes \$12,171.00 in summer tuition.

22 32. For the 2010-2011 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU  
23 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

24 33. During his sophomore year, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for  
25 his junior year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer.

26 34. As a junior (2011-2012), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements to  
27 maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.  
28

1           35. Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-campus during his junior year.  
2 And like all prior years, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year given his  
3 academic and athletic obligations.

4           36. During his junior year, Alston led his team in touchdowns and yards per carry. The  
5 WVU Mountaineers were ranked in the top 25 for most of the season and played Clemson in the  
6 Bowl Championship Series Orange Bowl. The WVU Mountaineers were underdogs against the 14th  
7 ranked Clemson Tigers. Alston and his fellow Mountaineers, however, would go on to crush the  
8 Tigers 70-33 and set several bowl records for scoring.

9           37. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for the 2011-  
10 2012 academic year for a non-resident, off-campus student, was approximately \$41,638.00. This  
11 includes tuition, books and supplies, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and room and board.  
12 Notably, this figure also includes \$12,680.00 in summer tuition.

13           38. For the 2011-2012 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU  
14 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

15           39. Alston graduated on in the summer of 2012, three years after first enrolling at WVU.  
16 After graduating, he continued taking classes at WVU.

17           40. Before graduating, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for his senior  
18 year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer and continued to take  
19 undergraduate courses.

20           41. As a senior (2012-2013), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements to  
21 maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.

22           42. Throughout his senior year, Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-  
23 campus. And like all prior years, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year  
24 given his academic and athletic obligations.

25           43. During his senior year, Alston scored seven touchdowns and again led his team in  
26 yards per carry. The team was ranked as high as eighth in the nation during the year, and went on to  
27 play in the Pinstripe Bowl against Syracuse University.  
28

1           44.     According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for Alston's  
2 senior year, for a full-time non-resident, off-campus student was approximately \$34,561.00. This  
3 included tuition, books and supplies, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and room and board.

4           45.     For the 2012-2013 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU  
5 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance. To help bridge this gap, Alston took out  
6 \$5,500.00 in Federal Direct Subsidized Loans.

7           46.     In 2013, after completing his college career and graduating from WVU, Alston signed  
8 as a free agent contract with the New Orleans Saints. Alston was released in June 2013 and retired  
9 from organized football shortly thereafter.

10          47.     Alston is now in graduate school pursuing a Masters of Business Administration.

11 **B.     Defendants**

12          48.     Defendant the National Collegiate Athletic Association (the "NCAA") describes itself  
13 as an "unincorporated not-for-profit educational organization founded in 1906," and maintains its  
14 principal place of business in Indianapolis, Indiana. The NCAA further states that it "is the  
15 organization through which the colleges and universities of the nation speak and act on athletic  
16 matters at the national level." It is composed of more than 1,200 colleges, universities, and athletic  
17 conferences, including the Power Conference Defendants, located throughout the United States.

18          49.     Through the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws, the NCAA and its members have  
19 adopted regulations governing all aspects of college sports. The NCAA Constitution and Bylaws  
20 were adopted by votes of the member institutions and may be amended by votes of the member  
21 institutions. Thus, the rules set forth in the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws constitute horizontal  
22 agreements between the NCAA and its members and between members of the NCAA. With respect  
23 to the Division I "grant-in-aid" they constitute a series of annually renewed, horizontal price-fixing  
24 agreements.

25          50.     The NCAA includes 1,102 active member schools, and these schools are organized  
26 into three Divisions. Division I includes 351 schools, including 242 with extensive football  
27 programs. Divisions II and III include schools with much less extensive or no football programs. As  
28 a practical matter, any academic institution that wishes to participate in any meaningful way in the

1 highest and most popular levels of college football must maintain membership in the NCAA and  
2 abide by the Division I rules and regulations promulgated by the NCAA and its members. There is  
3 no practical alternative to Division I NCAA membership for any academic institution that wishes to  
4 participate at the highest levels of college football.

5 51. Because the NCAA and NCAA member institutions control the highest and most  
6 popular levels of college football, any individual who wishes to provide athletic services in exchange  
7 for the payment of full tuition for an undergraduate academic and athletic education must, by  
8 necessity, attend an NCAA Division I member institution. There are zero practical alternatives that  
9 can provide the unique combination of attributes offered by Division I NCAA football schools:  
10 (i) the ability to exchange athletics services for the payment of educational costs plus room and  
11 board; (ii) high quality academic educational services; (iii) top-of-the-line training facilities; (iv) high  
12 quality coaches that will best be able to launch players to professional careers; (v) national publicity  
13 through nationwide scheduling of games and nationwide broadcasting contracts; and (vi) competition  
14 at the highest level of college football by competing for the same institution where one is also a  
15 student.

16 52. There is no major college football program in the United States that is not an NCAA  
17 Division I member, abiding by the NCAA rules. Division I NCAA member institutions are by far  
18 the largest purchasers of student football labor in the United States, and the NCAA and its Division I  
19 member institutions have monopsony power over the market for student football players.

20 53. The NCAA maintains a staff of over 300 individuals at its headquarters, and has an  
21 \$800 million dollar annual budget.<sup>3</sup>

22 54. Defendant NCAA during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of  
23 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,  
24 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

25 55. Defendant **Pacific-12 Conference (“Pac 12”)** is an unincorporated association, with  
26 its principal place of business located in this District at 1350 Treat Boulevard, Suite 500, Walnut

27 <sup>3</sup> [http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-](http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-madness.html#slide5)  
28 [madness.html#slide5](http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-madness.html#slide5).

1 Creek, CA 94597. The Pac 12 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal  
2 “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent  
3 one available for public inspection, the Pac 12 identified itself as a tax-exempt organization pursuant  
4 to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that, for its fiscal year ending  
5 June 30, 2012, it obtained gross revenues of \$175,898,248. The Pac 12’s “2013-14 Handbook”  
6 states that the Pac 12 was organized for purposes including: “[t]o provide its members with a jointly  
7 governed body for sponsoring, supervising and regulating intercollegiate athletics as a conference  
8 member of the National Collegiate Athletics Association (‘NCAA’) in accordance with the  
9 principles, policies, constitution and bylaws of the NCAA” and “[t]o assist its members in funding  
10 and promoting their intercollegiate athletics programs.”

11 56. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Pac 12’s current members are the following  
12 twelve (12) institutions: University of Arizona, Arizona State University, University of California,  
13 Berkeley, University of Colorado, University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Stanford  
14 University, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Southern California, University of  
15 Utah, University of Washington, and Washington State University. All of the Pac 12’s football  
16 members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision.

17 57. The Pac 12 is one of ten (10) NCAA member conferences that managed, until this  
18 January, the highly lucrative Bowl Championship Series, which identified itself as “a five-game  
19 college football showcase. The Bowl Championship Series, which has recently been retired in favor  
20 of a College Football Playoff, was designed to ensure that the top two teams in the country meet in  
21 the national championship game and to create exciting and competitive matchups among eight other  
22 highly regarded teams in four other [postseason] bowl games.” The Pac 12 was one of six  
23 “automatic qualifying” conferences for Bowl Championship Series purposes. This meant that the  
24 Pac 12 received an automatic berth into one of the five Bowl Championship Series postseason bowl  
25 games. Further details regarding the Pac 12 are provided herein.

26 58. Defendant Pac 12 during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of  
27 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,  
28 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.



59. Defendant **The Big Ten Conference, Inc. (the “Big Ten”)** is a nonprofit corporation, organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 5440 Park Place, Rosemont, Illinois 60018. The Big 10 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Big Ten identified itself as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that, for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, it obtained gross revenue of \$315,479,314. In its 2010 IRS Form 990, the Big Ten identified its mission as “to promote and regulate inter-collegiate athletic programs, encourage sound academic principles, and foster collegiality among our eleven member institutions, all of which are prestigious, non-profit educational institutions.”

60. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Big Ten’s members are the following twelve (12) institutions: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana University, University of Iowa, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, and University of Wisconsin-Madison. On July 1, 2014, the University of Maryland and Rutgers University will become members of the Big Ten Conference, bringing total membership to fourteen (14). All of the Big Ten’s football members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The Big Ten was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Big Ten are provided herein.

61. Defendant Big Ten during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members, and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

62. Defendant **The Big Twelve Conference, Inc. (“Big 12”)** is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 400 East John Carpenter Freeway, Irving, Texas 75062. The Big 12 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Big 12 stated that it was formed in 1996, is a tax-

1 exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and that, for  
2 its fiscal year ending June 20, 2012, it obtained gross revenue of \$159,510,4398. The Big 12 further  
3 stated in its IRS filing that its mission is to “organize, promote and administer intercollegiate  
4 athletics among its member institutions” and to “optimize revenues and provide supporting service  
5 sompatible [sic] with both academic and competitive excellence.”

6 63. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Big 12’s current members are the following  
7 ten (10) institutions: Baylor University, Iowa State University, University of Kansas, Kansas State  
8 University, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, University of Texas at Austin,  
9 Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University, and West Virginia University. All of the Big  
10 12’s football members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The  
11 Big 12 was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an  
12 acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Big 12 are provided herein.

13 64. Defendant Big 12 during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of  
14 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,  
15 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

16 65. Defendant **Southeastern Conference** is an unincorporated association, with its  
17 principal place of business located at 2201 Richard Arrington Boulevard North, Birmingham, AL  
18 35203-1103. The Southeastern Conference is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a  
19 formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most  
20 recent one available for public inspection, the Southeastern Conference identified itself as a tax-  
21 exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that,  
22 for its fiscal year ending August 31, 2012, it obtained revenues of \$273,063,526. It further identified  
23 its mission is to “promote and administer intercollegiate athletic competition among its 14 member  
24 institutions located in the Southeastern United States.”

25 66. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Southeastern Conference’s current members  
26 are the following fourteen (14) institutions: University of Florida, University of Georgia, University  
27 of Kentucky, University of Missouri, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee,  
28 Vanderbilt University, University of Alabama, University of Arkansas, Auburn University,

1 Louisiana State University, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, and Texas A&M  
2 University. All of the Southeastern Conference's football members are also members of the  
3 NCAA's Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The Southeastern Conference was an automatic  
4 qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power  
5 Conference. Further details regarding the Southeastern Conference are provided herein.

6 67. Defendant Southeastern Conference during the Class Period participated in the  
7 collusive restraint of trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby  
8 damaged Class Members, and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

9 68. Defendant **Atlantic Coast Conference** is an unincorporated association with its  
10 principal place of business located at 4512 Weybridge Lane, Greensboro, North Carolina 27407.  
11 The Atlantic Coast Conference is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference and a formal  
12 "conference member" of Defendant NCAA's Division I. In its 2011 U.S. Internal Revenue Service  
13 ("IRS") Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Atlantic Coast Conference  
14 stated that it was formed in 1953, is a tax-exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the  
15 U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and that, for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, it obtained gross  
16 revenue of \$224,076,000. The Atlantic Coast Conference further stated in its IRS filing that it  
17 "exists to promote and regulate inter-collegiate athletic programs for and among twelve member  
18 institutions, all of which are non-profit educational institutions." It also identified itself as a  
19 corporation in that IRS filing, although elsewhere it has identified itself as an unincorporated non-  
20 profit association.

21 69. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Atlantic Coast Conference's current  
22 members are the following fourteen (14) institutions: Boston College, Clemson University, Duke  
23 University, Florida State University, Georgia Institute of Technology ("Georgia Tech"), University  
24 of Maryland, College Park ("Maryland"), University of Miami, University of North Carolina at  
25 Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, University of Pittsburgh, Syracuse University,  
26 University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University ("Virginia Tech"), and  
27 Wake Forest University. On July 1, 2014, the University of Louisville will become an Atlantic  
28 Coast Conference member, and Maryland will depart the Atlantic Coast Conference to join the Big

Ten Conference. Also, as the Atlantic Coast Conference stated in its 2012-13 annual report, the University of Notre Dame “officially joined the ACC on July 1, 2013 ... Notre Dame will compete as a full member in all conference sponsored sports with the exception of football, which will play five games annually against league programs.” The Atlantic Coast Conference was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Atlantic Coast Conference are provided herein.

70. Defendants Pac 12, Big Ten, Big 12, Southeastern Conference, and Atlantic Coast Conference are collectively referred to herein as the “Power Conference Defendants.”

71. Whenever in this Complaint Plaintiff makes reference to any act, deed, or transaction of a Defendant, the allegation means that the Defendant engaged in the act, deed, or transaction by or through its officers, directors, agents, employees, or representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control or transaction of the Defendant’s business or affairs.

### **C. Co-Conspirators**

72. Various other persons, firms, corporations, and entities have participated as unnamed co-conspirators with Defendants in the violations and conspiracy alleged herein, including the NCAA’s Division I member schools and non-Defendant Division I conferences. In order to engage in the offenses charged and violations alleged herein, these co-conspirators have performed acts and made statements in furtherance of the antitrust violations and other violations alleged herein.

73. At all relevant times, each co-conspirator was an agent of Defendants and each of the remaining co-conspirators, and in doing the acts alleged herein, was acting within the course and scope of such agency. Defendants and each co-conspirator ratified and/or authorized the wrongful acts of Defendants and each of the other co-conspirators. Defendants and the co-conspirators, and each of them, are participants as aiders and abettors in the improper acts and transactions that are the subject of this action.

### **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

74. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question) and 28 U.S.C. § 1337 (commerce and antitrust regulation), as this action arises under Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1, and Sections 4 and 16 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C.

1 §§ 15(a) and 26. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d),  
2 because this is a class action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of  
3 \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and in which some members of the proposed Class are  
4 citizens of a state different from any Defendant. This Court also has supplemental subject matter  
5 jurisdiction with respect to the pendant state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

6 75. Venue is proper in this District because Defendants reside, are found, and have  
7 agents, in this District as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) and in Section 4 of the Clayton  
8 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 15. A substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims  
9 occurred in this District. The athletics grant-in-aid cap applies to college athletes who have  
10 competed, or presently do compete, for NCAA member institutions in this District, the NCAA  
11 sanctions Division I athletics events that regularly take place in this District, including regular season  
12 football games played by local schools and post-season events such as football bowl games, and  
13 Plaintiff and numerous members of the proposed Class reside in this District.

14 76. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because, *inter alia*, they:  
15 (a) transact business throughout the United States, including in this District; (b) participate in  
16 organizing intercollegiate athletic contests as well as licensing and selling merchandise and products,  
17 including television events such as football bowl games, throughout the United States, including in  
18 this District; (c) have substantial contacts within the United States, including in this District; and  
19 (d) are engaged in an illegal anti-competitive scheme that was directed at, and had the intended effect  
20 of causing injury to, persons residing in, located in, and/or doing business throughout the United  
21 States, including in this District.

22 77. Additionally, NCAA Division I member schools are found within this District, such  
23 as the University of California, Berkeley and Stanford University, both members of Defendant  
24 Pac 12. Additionally located in this District are several schools that are members of co-conspirator  
25 NCAA conferences, specifically, USF, St. Mary's, Santa Clara, and San Jose State. Moreover,  
26 NCAA Power Conference and Defendant Pac 12 are headquartered within this District in Walnut  
27 Creek, California.

78. In July 2011, rivals.com evaluated “the top 10 states that produced Bowl Championship Series signees over the past 10 years.” It ranked California third in the nation, and stated that “California’s large population is a key to its high number of Bowl Championship Series signees. California, Stanford, UCLA and USC don’t have to go very far to find high-quality players. The other schools in what was the Pac-10 (now Pac 12) have also feasted on California talent, as have programs such as Colorado and Notre Dame. This state has produced tons of top-level talent.” As alluded to, California’s population is the largest in the nation by a very wide-margin, and the recruiting patterns of the Power Conference Defendants’ members reflect that, as they continuously and systematically travel and communicate into California to recruit California football players.

79. Moreover, the NCAA conducted its Annual Convention in California this year. The NCAA, the Power Conference Defendants, and other NCAA members expressly debated and discussed the subject matter detailed in this Complaint, and reinforced and ratified their agreements to not presently allow NCAA members to exceed the grant-in-aid cap up to the Cost of Attendance, and to not allow NCAA members to exceed the Cost of Attendance.

80. **Intradistrict Assignment:** This action arises in Alameda County or San Francisco County because that is where a substantial part of the events that give rise to the claims occurred. Within Alameda County is found the University of California Berkeley (“Cal”) campus. Cal, for example, fields at least 27 intercollegiate sports teams, including a Football Bowl Subdivision men’s football team, both of which compete in the Pac 12. Current and former college football players on this team have been subjected to the violations described herein, and current college football players on this team are subject to the continuing violations described herein. Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-2(d), this action should be assigned to the San Francisco Division or to the Oakland Division.

#### IV. THE RELEVANT MARKET

81. The relevant market is the nationwide market for the labor of NCAA Division I college football players. In this labor market, current and prospective college students compete for roster spots on Division I football teams. NCAA Division I member institutions compete to obtain and retain the best Division I football players by paying in-kind benefits, namely, Division I football scholarships, access to academic programs, access to training facilities, and instruction from premier

1 coaches. In some cases, the capped compensation includes pay in cash, through the provision of a  
2 housing and food allowance, but in all cases the amount of in-kind and cash compensation is strictly  
3 capped by means of the conspiracy alleged herein.

4 82. NCAA Division I football is further divided into two subdivisions, Football Bowl  
5 Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision. These subdivisions constitute distinct  
6 submarkets within the broader labor market for Division I football college players. Plaintiff only  
7 seeks damages and injunctive relief with respect to the Football Bowl Subdivision submarket, in  
8 which all of Power Conference Defendants' member teams compete. The Football Bowl  
9 Subdivision Labor submarket is referred to herein as the "Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market."  
10 The level of football played by those schools that acquire their athletes through the Football Bowl  
11 Subdivision Labor Market is referred to herein as "Major College Football."

12 83. NCAA rules currently permit the award of 85 full scholarships for Football Bowl  
13 Subdivision teams, and 63 full scholarships for Football Championship Subdivision teams (in the  
14 later case, those scholarships may be spread over 85 athletes). Division I football programs compete  
15 at the highest level of college football. They generate millions of dollars in revenue from revenue  
16 streams including game attendance ticket revenue, TV contracts, corporate sponsorships,  
17 merchandise sales and licensing, and alumni contributions.

18 84. The superior revenues generated by Division I football programs enable them to  
19 provide superior coaching, playing and training facilities, and travel opportunities to football players.

20 **A. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market is Distinct**

21 85. The NCAA, the Power Conferences, their co-conspirator conferences (such as the  
22 American Athletic Conference), and the colleges and universities that compete in Football Bowl  
23 Subdivision conferences sanction and sponsor college football games. Those athletic contests  
24 involve teams comprised of players who are also receiving the higher education services of the  
25 colleges and universities for which they provide their athletic services. The football players that  
26 compete in the Power Conferences, and thus within the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, are  
27 elite athletes, the very best football players in the world in their age group. Those elite players have  
28 no other options, other than in the Power Conferences, where they can compete against similarly



1 elite competition. Most such players are not eligible to compete as professionals in the National  
2 Football League (“NFL”). The teams in that league are parties to a collective bargaining agreement  
3 with the union that represents professional football players (the “NFLPA”). That agreement  
4 prohibits a football player from joining the NFL until they have been out of high school for three (3)  
5 years. Even as the number of athletes who have availed themselves of this option to enter the NFL  
6 after three years has grown, it has yet to reach 100 athletes per year, leaving most athletes unable to  
7 access any competitive labor offers until they complete at least 4 years of college under collusive  
8 compensation restrictions.

9 86. This association of the products of Power Conference football with college students  
10 competing as elite athletes is a unique feature that makes those products successful and distinguishes  
11 those products from other sporting events and other entertainment alternatives. Because of the  
12 distinct commercial appeal of the football played in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market,  
13 the NCAA and the colleges and universities in the relevant market generate substantial revenues by  
14 selling tickets to sporting events, selling broadcast rights to television and radio outlets, and related  
15 licensing and concession activities.

16 87. The television broadcast revenues attributable to Football Bowl Subdivision teams  
17 dwarf those attributable to Football Championship Subdivision teams, demonstrating the  
18 marketplace’s recognition of the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market as a distinct submarket  
19 where Football Bowl Subdivision schools participate in Major College Football

20 88. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market includes all of the colleges and  
21 universities in the Football Bowl Subdivision, which the NCAA itself defines as the highest level of  
22 competition in college football. This includes all colleges and universities that are members of the  
23 Power Conference Defendants, as well as those schools they collude with through NCAA  
24 agreements to fix the maximum price paid for the labor services of Football Bowl Subdivision  
25 athletes. To compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, a college football program  
26 must be a member of the NCAA’s Football Bowl Subdivision, and thus must meet game attendance  
27 levels specified by the NCAA and must play nearly all of its games against other teams that compete  
28



1 in that market. It also must agree to abide by the Football Bowl Subdivision's specific and Division  
2 I's general rules mandating price fixing in the relevant market and its two submarkets.

3 89. From the standpoint of a prospective college football player, there is no reasonably  
4 interchangeable substitute for the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market. Participating in Major  
5 College Football provides prospective student-athletes the opportunity to compete at the highest level  
6 of college football while earning a college degree, and also offers prospective college football  
7 players a far greater prospect for advancement to a professional football career than is available  
8 anywhere else. Because of the unique combination of athletic and academic benefits associated with  
9 competing in the Major College Football offerings of the schools and conferences competing in the  
10 Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, prospective college football players who have the  
11 opportunity to participate in Football Bowl Subdivision programs very rarely choose to pursue any  
12 alternatives to Football Bowl Subdivision.

13 90. Consistent with the status of the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market as a distinct  
14 product market, each of the Power Conference Defendants markets its brand of football as a distinct  
15 product. Thus, for example, Defendant Southeastern Conference creates a product called  
16 Southeastern Conference Football that includes a full-season of Southeastern Conference football  
17 competition (including a pre-season against other conferences) that culminates in the Southeastern  
18 Conference Championship Game in Atlanta, Georgia. Southeastern Conference members then also  
19 compete against other conference's members in post-season bowl games, and starting in 2014-15, in  
20 a newly formed post-season playoff. Similarly, each of the other four Defendant conferences (as  
21 well as the five non-Defendant co-conspirator Football Bowl Subdivision conferences) produce a  
22 conference season of Major College Football. Defendant NCAA's expert in other litigation has also  
23 testified to this effect:

24 It would be more accurate to say the NCAA is sponsoring sports  
25 leagues. It's not the league itself.... The NCAA is a collaboration of  
26 universities and conferences, and it sponsors and coordinates sports  
leagues, so the league itself would be, you know, say one of the  
collegiate leagues, like the Big Ten.

27 91. While these ten conferences serve as closer and more distance substitutes for each  
28 other (with the Power Conferences having substantially more overlap among each other and also

1 higher market share among broadcasters and consumers), members of the live and television  
2 audiences for Major College Football do not view other football games, other sporting events, other  
3 entertainment options or any other product or category of products as an acceptable substitute for the  
4 Major College Football produced by participants in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

5 **B. Grants-in-Aid are Commercial Transactions**

6 92. Despite the nonprofit status of NCAA member schools, the transactions those schools  
7 make with premier Division I football athletes – full “grants-in-aid” in exchange for athletic  
8 services – cannot be termed “noncommercial,” since schools make millions of dollars annually as a  
9 result of these transactions. In recent oral argument in the Northern District of California, the NCAA  
10 cited case precedent it acknowledged defines its activities as commercial.<sup>4</sup> Thus, the transactions  
11 between NCAA schools and student-athletes are commercial in nature, and therefore take place in a  
12 relevant market with respect to the Sherman Act.

13 93. To field teams that can compete effectively on the field of play and generate increased  
14 revenues for their athletic programs, the colleges and universities that acquire talent in the Football  
15 Bowl Subdivision Labor Market compete in marketing their services to the talented college athletes  
16 whose participation is necessary for the products to exist. As in all economic transactions, each party  
17 provides goods and services of benefit to the other party, on a number of dimensions. The  
18 dimensions in which this competition to recruit and retain student-athletes takes place includes the  
19 quality of the educational experiences provided to student-athletes, the quality of coaching services,  
20 the quality of training amenities, the quality of athletic and non-athletic opportunities following  
21 graduation, and the quality of the athletic competition on the field of play.

22 94. Of particular relevance to this case, the participants in the Football Bowl Subdivision  
23 Labor Market also compete in offering student-athletes admission to their institutions and financial  
24 incentives to accept their offers of admission that take the form of grants-in-aid. A grant-in-aid can  
25 be provided purely in-kind (through tuition grants, room and board, and books), or in many cases in a  
26 mix of in-kind compensation and direct cash payments. These cash payments occur most commonly  
27

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28 <sup>4</sup> See *O'Bannon* SJM Hearing Tr. at page 84.

1 when students choose to live off campus and so in place of room and board, schools simply give  
2 each player a monthly check.

3 95. In exchange, athletes agree to compete for the school's football team, and their access  
4 to both in-kind and cash compensation is conditional on participation – an athlete who voluntarily  
5 leaves the team is not kicked out of school, but he is denied continued payment of a grant-in-aid for  
6 the remaining years of his college attendance.

7 **C. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market Constitutes a Separate Market from**  
8 **NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA, and Community / Junior Colleges**

9 96. NCAA Division II football programs are not in the same market as Division I football  
10 programs, especially those who compete for talent in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.  
11 The total number of Division II scholarships is limited to 36. A typical NCAA college football  
12 squad totals approximately 100 players. So, almost no Division II football athletes are awarded a full  
13 scholarship. Division II football programs have smaller budgets, play close to home, and do not  
14 generate excess revenue for the school as a whole. They provide lower quality facilities and  
15 coaching, and limited (if any) opportunities to showcase an athlete's talent on national television.  
16 There are few, if any, recorded instances of an athlete being offered the maximum allowed grant-in-  
17 aid to play at a Division I school (whether Football Championship Subdivision or Football Bowl  
18 Subdivision) choosing instead to accept a Division II scholarship.

19 97. NCAA Division III football programs are prohibited from awarding athletic  
20 scholarships so they are not in the relevant market.

21 98. The NAIA is the largest of only a few other associations sponsoring four-year college  
22 football. It is made up of smaller schools, and NAIA rules permit only 24 scholarships. So, almost  
23 no player receives a full scholarship to play football. NAIA football programs are also not in the  
24 relevant market. Nor are other college football sanctioning associations such as the National  
25 Christian Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCCAA") or the United States Collegiate Athletic  
26 Association ("USCAA").  
27  
28

1           99. Two-year junior colleges cannot award college degrees. Superior high school football  
2 players do not choose to play at a junior college unless they are unable to meet NCAA academic  
3 eligibility standards.

4           100. The differences between the NCAA divisions, and between the NCCAA and the  
5 NAIA (and other minor associations), are demonstrated by a variety of additional factors. Total  
6 football revenue is probably the most critical factor in differentiating the market. Total football  
7 revenue for the 242 Division I schools in 2011 was well over \$3 billion, with the majority coming  
8 from the 120 Football Bowl Subdivision schools (\$2,956,499,371). Total football revenue for the  
9 122 Football Championship Subdivision schools was \$375,774,921 in 2011.

10           101. In contrast, total football revenue for the 157 Division II football schools was less  
11 than half of the Football Championship Subdivision revenue (\$181,929,450). Football revenue for  
12 all NAIA schools was \$83.6 million. For 2011, average football team revenue for Football Bowl  
13 Subdivision schools was \$24.6 million. Average team revenue for Football Championship  
14 Subdivision schools was \$3.1 million. Average football team revenue for Division II schools was  
15 \$1.2 million. Average football revenue for NAIA schools was even less, approximately \$1 million.

16           102. The large differences in revenue between Division I schools and NAIA and  
17 Division II schools are driven in part by the differences in total attendance. In 2012, Football Bowl  
18 Subdivision schools had a total attendance of 37,170,235 fans; Football Championship Subdivision  
19 schools had an attendance of 5,967,272 fans, and all 157 Division II football teams drew 3,006,297  
20 fans. Total 2011 attendance figures for the 81 NAIA football schools were not available but the  
21 number is insignificant when compared to NCAA Division I attendance figures, especially those for  
22 Football Bowl Subdivision. As one such example, it has been reported that attendance at the NAIA  
23 championship game in 2012 was 5,263. In contrast, the most recent Football Bowl Subdivision  
24 championship game drew over 94,000 attendees.<sup>5</sup>

25           103. Average attendance figures also differentiate the relevant market. In 2012, Football  
26 Bowl Subdivision schools averaged 45,440 per game. Football Championship Subdivision schools  
27

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28           <sup>5</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012\\_NAIA\\_Football\\_National\\_Championship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_NAIA_Football_National_Championship).

1 averaged 9,041 per game. Division II football averaged 3,520 per game. NAIA schools play in  
2 much smaller stadiums. Marion University, a NAIA school, has a stadium with a maximum capacity  
3 of 3,000. Several Division I football schools compete in stadiums with a capacity in excess of  
4 100,000.

5 104. The differences between college football divisions in the quality of competition and  
6 the level of institutional support cause superior high school football players to choose Division I  
7 Football Bowl Subdivision schools and scholarships over other Division I, Division II, or NAIA  
8 scholarships. For these players Division I, Division II and NAIA football is not a substitute for  
9 Division I Football Bowl schools.

10 105. The intense recruitment of talented high school football players has led to the growth  
11 of companies which scout and rate thousands of players. The most prominent company, rivals.com,  
12 rates high school players on a 0 to 5 star scale. Of the 21,198 athletes tracked by rivals.com between  
13 2007-2011 who received a Division I scholarship offer, 90% accepted. The vast majority of the  
14 other 10% opted out of college football rather than accept a scholarship at a Division II or NAIA  
15 school. Again, this indicates that Division II and/or NAIA football is not an adequate substitute.  
16 The very fact that most NAIA and Division II athletes do not even rate a zero-star rating from Rivals  
17 is evidence that they are of a far different caliber of quality than those in the Rivals database.

18 **D. There is Robust Competition Among NCAA Members in the Football Bowl Subdivision**  
19 **Labor Market to Recruit and Retain College Football Players**

20 106. There is acutely intense competition among Division I schools to recruit and retain the  
21 athletic services of college football players. This competition is most intense among the Power  
22 Conference Defendants that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, but also exists  
23 at the Football Championship Subdivision level. The colleges and universities in the relevant market  
24 compete against one another to recruit and retain college athletes to participate in their athletic  
25 programs through agreements under which the athletes commit to attend a particular college or  
26 university in exchange for a GIA. The only reason that NCAA Division I schools do not engage in  
27 price competition to recruit and retain those athletes is due to the fact the NCAA Bylaws at issue  
28 prevent them from doing so.

107. NCAA members robustly compete for Class Members, though the price they pay involves primarily in-kind benefits. For instance, colleges may compete to hire the coach that will be best able to potentially launch players from the NCAA to the National Football League, an attractive component for a prospective college football player. Colleges also engage in veritable arms races to provide top-of-the-line training facilities which, in turn, are explicitly designed to attract and retain collegiate football players. Many future collegiate football players also look to the strength of a college's academic programs in deciding where to attend. These are all part of the competitive market to attract college football players whose athletic labor can result in many benefits for a college, including economic gain.

108. The NCAA prohibits its member institutions from simply paying student-athletes salaries or even offering deferred trust-funds or other forms of payment. Instead, competition among schools results in students with the desired athletic ability often receiving the maximum allowed (per the restraint in suit) Division I football grants-in-aid. In effect, the student-athlete uses his or her athletic abilities on behalf of the NCAA member institution in exchange for the cost of an athletic and academic education, room, and board. NCAA member institutions pay for these goods and services for student-athletes because student-athletes bring substantial collateral benefits to the school in the form of: (a) enhanced publicity and recruiting, which increases overall tuition revenue; (b) increased alumni donations; and (c) millions of dollars in gate receipts and licensing revenue and if they were to offer less than the maximum allowed per the restraint, a rival school would make the maximum offer and gain the benefits of that athlete's services instead.

**E. NCAA Members' Competition is Constrained by the Unlawful Grant-in-Aid Cap**

109. With one critical exception, the schools in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market engage in virtually unfettered competition for athletes in numerous respects. However, because all of the NCAA members competing in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market have agreed to abide by the NCAA's grant-in-aid cap, the schools do not compete against one another with respect to the amount of financial aid and other forms of direct compensation they provide to college athletes. The NCAA and the colleges and universities in the relevant markets are able to enforce that agreement because, from the standpoint of prospective student-athletes, there are no

1 acceptable substitutes for the Major College Football offered by Power Conference Defendants and  
 2 their co-conspirators in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market. Absent the agreement not to  
 3 compete on this dimension, Defendants' member schools and those of their co-conspirator  
 4 conferences would compete vigorously to attract talent using increased financial aid and other direct  
 5 forms of compensation, but having secured an agreement of 100% of the schools and conferences in  
 6 the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, the NCAA and the conferences in the relevant market  
 7 thus collectively wield market and monopoly power in the relevant market and are able to dictate the  
 8 terms upon which the student-athletes who participate in Major College Football receive grants-in-  
 9 aid.

10 110. The demand for college athletes is such that, absent the unlawful grant-in-aid cap, the  
 11 colleges and universities in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market would have competed  
 12 against one another by offering higher amounts of athletics-based financial aid to college athletes, up  
 13 to and likely past the true Cost of Attendance. grants-in-aid are therefore "capped" by the artificial  
 14 rules imposed by the NCAA at amounts lower than the amounts that would prevail in a truly  
 15 competitive market. All or nearly all of the college athletes in the proposed Class receive the  
 16 maximum grant-in-aid amount that the colleges and universities are permitted to give under the  
 17 NCAA's rules and regulations. As detailed herein, the Commissioners of the five Power Conference  
 18 Defendants have all publicly stated that, absent the NCAA restraint which they and their co-  
 19 conspirators have collectively imposed upon the market, each Power Conference Defendant would  
 20 allow and provide compensation in excess of the current cap.

21 111. As one such example, Defendant Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delaney, has argued in  
 22 favor of providing Big Ten athletes with "a yearly stipend that would provide a set amount of extra  
 23 money to cover the difference between the actual cost of attending a school versus what a full ride  
 24 scholarship provides. He identified a fixed cost of anywhere from \$2000 to \$5000 per athlete."<sup>6</sup>  
 25 Paragraphs 174-193 herein identify many more such statements from the Power Conference  
 26 Defendants indicating their desire to use payments above the current grant-in-aid cap as a part of the

27 <sup>6</sup> [http://www.cornnation.com/2013/7/25/4556982/jim-delany-and-the-ncaa-the-times-they-are-a-](http://www.cornnation.com/2013/7/25/4556982/jim-delany-and-the-ncaa-the-times-they-are-a-changin)  
 28 changin.

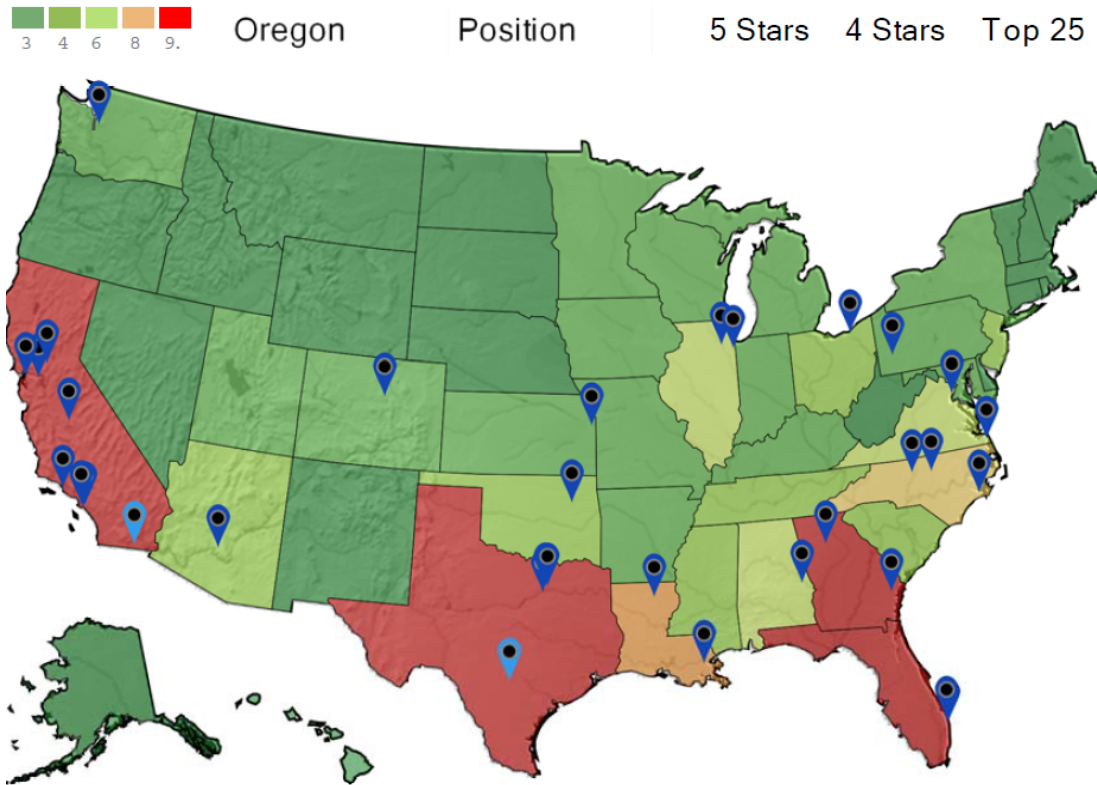
1 competition for recruits. Defendants' own public statements make clear that for the members of the  
2 Class, increased competition on the terms of athletics-based financial aid upon the elimination of the  
3 grant-in-aid cap would result in additional compensation, primarily in the form of increased athletics-  
4 based financial aid for all members of the proposed Class.

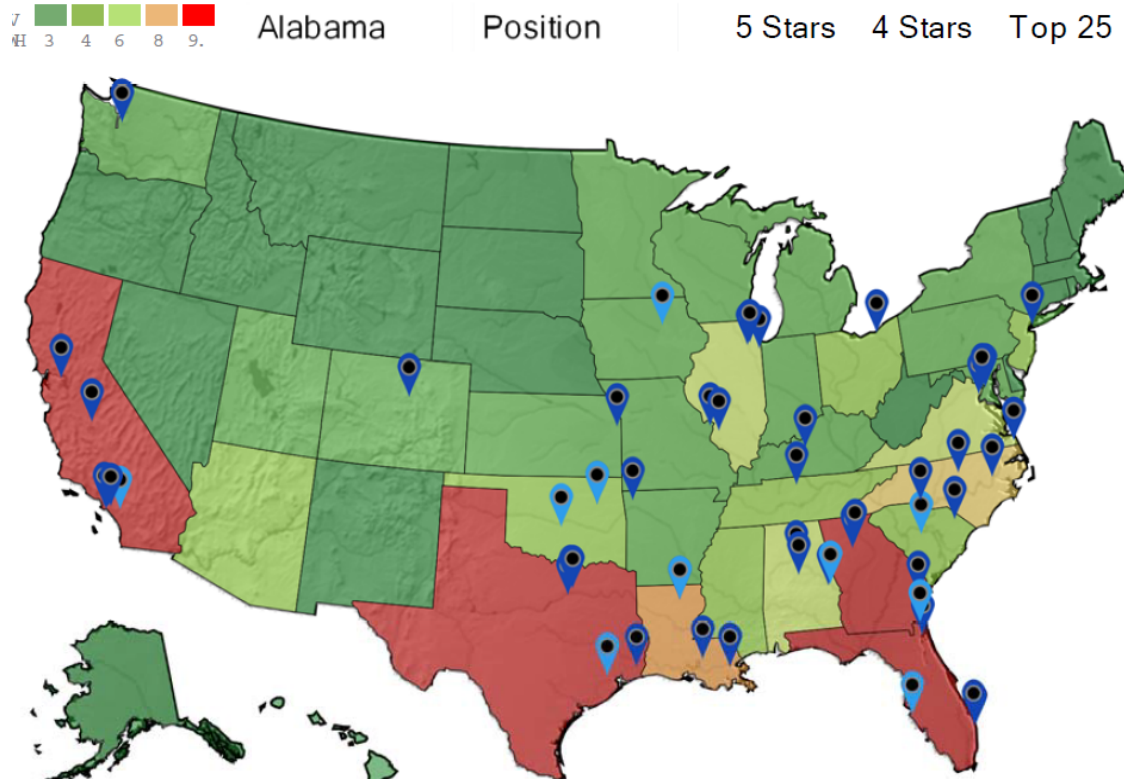
5 **F. The Relevant Geographic Market**

6 112. The relevant geographic market is the United States. All Division I football teams are  
7 located in the U.S. As a uniquely American sport, 99.9% of all Division I football players are from  
8 the United States. Schools that participate in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market recruit  
9 athletes throughout the nation, as is demonstrated in the recruiting maps published by the sports  
10 website "The Bleacher Report." These maps, *available at*  
11 [http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-](http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-map)  
12 [map](http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-map), show that schools from states as distant as Alabama and Oregon clearly compete for talent on a  
13 nationwide basis, with both programs focusing on the talent-rich state of California as well as  
14 throughout the Southeast.



**Oregon:**



**Alabama:****V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS****A. An Overview of the NCAA****1. The NCAA's history.**

113. Former NCAA Executive Director Walter Byers, in his 1995 book, *Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Exploiting College Athletes*, wrote: “[t]he first intercollegiate competition in the United States was conceived and organized by students in the mid-1840s. By the turn of the century, eastern colleges were competing in some 19 sports. This all came about through student initiative and effort. The students set in place the underlying structure for college sports. Today, professional coaches, professional managers and money-minded presidents have total control. It is time to give back to the students who play sports the freedoms they deserve. At a minimum, they are entitled to freedoms enjoyed by their fellow students.”

114. The NCAA details its view of history on its website. It states that it “was founded in 1906 to protect young people from the dangerous and exploitive athletics practices of the time.”<sup>7</sup> The NCAA continues that “[t]he rugged nature of early-day football, typified by mass formations and gang tackling, resulted in numerous injuries and deaths and prompted many college [sic] and universities to discontinue the sport. In many places, college football was run by student groups that often hired players and allowed them to compete as non-students. Common sentiment among the public was that college football should be reformed or abolished.” The NCAA continues that, “President Theodore Roosevelt summoned college athletics leaders to two White House conferences to encourage reforms. In early December 1905, Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken of New York University convened a meeting of 13 colleges and universities to initiate changes in football playing rules. At a subsequent meeting Dec. 28 in New York City, 62 higher-education institutions became charter members of the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States (IAAUS). The IAAUS officially was constituted March 31, 1906, and took its present name, the NCAA, in 1910.”<sup>8</sup>

115. The NCAA states on its website that “[f]or several years, the NCAA was a discussion group and rules-making body, but in 1921 the first NCAA national championship was conducted: the National Collegiate Track and Field Championships. Gradually, more rules committees were formed and more championships were created, including a basketball championship in 1939.”

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<sup>7</sup> Notably, *The Washington Times* reported on December 24, 2013, that the NCAA stated in a court filing early that month, in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed by a college football player’s family, that “[t]he NCAA denies that it has a legal duty to protect student-athletes.”

<sup>8</sup> The NCAA annually awards a Theodore Roosevelt Award to an individual “for whom competitive athletics in college and attention to physical well-being thereafter have been important factors in a distinguished career of national significance and achievement.” There is considerable irony in the NCAA’s references to former President Theodore Roosevelt being instrumental in the formation of the NCAA, given his own abhorrence of trusts that violate the Sherman Act and the NCAA’s evolution into its present-day form including its status as an adjudged antitrust law violator and recidivist. *See, e.g.*, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/theodoreroosevelt> (“Roosevelt emerged spectacularly as a ‘trust buster’ by forcing the dissolution of a great railroad combination in the Northwest. Other antitrust suits under the Sherman Act followed.”). *See also* <http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Learn-About-TR/Themes/Capitalism-and-Labor/The-Northern-Securities-Case.aspx> (“The Northern Securities Case (1904), which established President Theodore Roosevelt’s reputation as a ‘trust buster,’ reached the Supreme Court in 1904. It was the first example of Roosevelt’s use of anti-trust legislation to dismantle a monopoly, in this case a holding company controlling the principal railroad lines from Chicago to the Pacific Northwest.”).

1           116. The NCAA continues that “[a]s college athletics grew, the scope of the nation’s  
2 athletics programs diverged, forcing the NCAA to create a structure that recognized varying levels of  
3 emphasis. In 1973, the Association’s membership was divided into three legislative and competitive  
4 divisions – I, II and III. Five years later, Division I members voted to create subdivisions I-A and  
5 I-AA (renamed the Football Bowl Subdivision and the Football Championship Subdivision in 2007)  
6 in football.” The NCAA continues that it “began administering women’s athletics programs in 1980  
7 when Divisions II and III established 10 championships for 1981-82. A year later, the historic 75th  
8 Convention adopted an extensive governance plan to include women’s athletics programs, services  
9 and representation. The delegates expanded the women’s championships program with the addition  
10 of 19 events, many of them Division I and National Collegiate (all division) championships.”

11           **2. The NCAA’s basic structure.**

12           117. The NCAA’s publicly-available documents confirm that it operates by way of  
13 horizontal agreements among its members. The NCAA, in its “Consolidated Financial Statements as  
14 of and for the Years Ended August 31, 2012 and 2011” (the “Financial Statements”), describes itself  
15 as an “unincorporated not-for-profit educational organization.” It further states that it “is the  
16 organization through which the colleges and universities of the nation speak and act on athletic  
17 matters at the national level.” The NCAA additionally states that it “is a voluntary association of  
18 more than 1,200 institutions, conferences, and organizations devoted to the sound administration of  
19 intercollegiate athletics in all its phases.” The NCAA further states that “[t]hrough the NCAA, its  
20 members consider any athletics issue that crosses regional or conference lines and is national in  
21 character.” The NCAA additionally states that it “serves as the colleges’ national athletics governing  
22 agency.”

23           118. The NCAA further states in its 2011 Internal Revenue Service Form 990 (“IRS Tax  
24 Return”) that its “active member institutions and voting conferences are the ultimate voice in all  
25 Association decisions.”

26           119. The NCAA states on its website that it “oversees 89 championships in 23 sports.  
27 There are more than 400,000 student-athletes competing in three divisions at over 1,000 colleges and  
28 universities within the NCAA.” The NCAA further states:

Each member school is able to choose a level of competition that best fits its mission. Competition is offered in Division I (the largest programs that provide the most athletically related financial aid for student-athletes), Division II (limited financial aid) and Division III (no athletically related financial aid).

There are 1,066 active member schools in the NCAA membership – 340 in Division I, 290 in Division II and 436 in Division III. The NCAA also contains 95 member conferences in all three divisions. Overall membership – counting schools, conferences and related associations – is 1,273.

Division I is subdivided based on football affiliation. A total of 120 schools are members of the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). That subdivision is characterized by postseason play outside the NCAA structure and also by higher financial aid allocations. The second Division I subdivision is the Football Championship Subdivision, which contains 122 schools that participate in the NCAA's Division I Football Championship. The remaining 98 Division I schools do not sponsor football.

120. The NCAA, in Article 3.01 of its Constitution, states that "Division I offers three classes of membership: active, conference and affiliated."

121. NCAA Constitution Article 3.02.3, titled "Membership Categories," states:

**3.02.3.1 Active Member.** An active member is a four-year college or university that is accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting agency and duly elected to active membership under the provisions of this article (see Constitution 3.2.3). Active members have the right to compete in NCAA championships, to vote on legislation and other issues before the Association, and to enjoy other privileges of membership designated in the constitution and bylaws of the Association.

**3.02.3.2 Member Conference.** A member conference is a group of colleges and/or universities that conducts competition among its members and determines a conference champion in one or more sports (in which the NCAA conducts championships or for which it is responsible for providing playing rules for intercollegiate competition), duly elected to conference membership under the provisions of this article (see Constitution 3.3.3). A member conference is entitled to all of the privileges of active members except the right to compete in NCAA championships (see Constitution 3.3.2). Only those conferences that meet specific criteria as competitive and legislative bodies (see Constitution 3.02.1 and 3.02.2) and minimum standards related to size and division status are permitted to vote on legislation or other issues before the Association.

122. The NCAA states on its website that "[e]ach division creates its own rules governing personnel, amateurism, recruiting, eligibility, benefits, financial aid, and playing and practice

seasons – consistent with the overall governing principles of the Association. Every program must affiliate its core program with one of the three divisions.”

123. The NCAA further states this on its website:

Division I is subdivided based on a school’s football sponsorship. Schools that have football teams that participate in bowl games belong to the Football Bowl Subdivision. Those that participate in the NCAA-run football championship belong to the Football Championship Subdivision. Other schools don’t sponsor football at all.

Schools that belong to the Football Bowl Subdivision have different requirements from other schools. For example, they must sponsor a minimum of 16 varsity sports, including football. Other Division I schools must sponsor 14 sports. Additionally, Football Bowl Subdivision schools must meet stricter requirements for financial aid distribution and home football attendance than schools who classify in the FCS or Division I without football.

The subdivisions are based on football sponsorship only. All other sports are considered simply Division I.

### **3. The NCAA’s purpose.**

124. The NCAA in its Financial Statement states that, “[a] basic purpose of the NCAA is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body.”

125. In its 2011 IRS Tax Return, the NCAA states that “[t]he mission of the NCAA national offices is to conduct efficiently the business of the association as directed by the membership ....” The NCAA therein further states that, “[t]he NCAA’s purpose is to govern competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner and to integrate intercollegiate athletics into higher education so that the educational experience of the student-athlete is paramount.”

126. Article 1 of the NCAA’s Constitution states that the NCAA’s purposes include “(c) To encourage its members to adopt eligibility rules to comply with satisfactory standards of scholarship, sportsmanship and amateurism;” “(f) To supervise the conduct of, and to establish eligibility standards for, regional and national athletics events under the auspices of this Association;” “(h) To legislate, through bylaws or by resolutions of a Convention, upon any subject of general concern to the members related to the administration of intercollegiate athletics;” and



(i) To study in general all phases of competitive intercollegiate athletics and establish standards whereby the colleges and universities of the United States can maintain their athletics programs on a high level.”

**4. The NCAA’s detailed governance structure.**

127. The NCAA states in its Financial Statement that it “operates through a governance structure, which empowers each division to guide and enhance their ongoing division-specific activities.” It continues that, “[i]n Division I, the legislative system is based on conference representation and an eighteen member Board of Directors that approves legislation.” The NCAA continues that, “[t]he governance structure also includes an Executive Committee composed of sixteen chief executive officers (member institution chief executive officers) that oversee association-wide issues, which is charged with ensuring that each division operates consistently with the basic purposes, fundamental policies, and general principles of the NCAA.”

128. The NCAA further states that its “Executive Committee serves as the senior governing body of the NCAA.”

129. The NCAA further states this on its website: “**Division I Board of Directors** Eighteen members comprised of chief executive officers (CEOs). All 11 Football Bowl Subdivision conferences have a permanent seat. Seven Football Championship Subdivision and Division I conferences rotate seats.”<sup>9</sup>

**5. The NCAA Manual.**

130. The NCAA and its members govern themselves through the NCAA’s “Manuals,” promulgated yearly, with additional quarterly updates. The Manuals include, among other things, the NCAA’s “Constitution” and “Operating Bylaws.” Through the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws, the NCAA and its members have adopted regulations governing all aspects of both men’s and women’s college sports. The NCAA Constitution and Bylaws were adopted by votes of the member institutions and may be amended by votes of the member institutions. Thus, the rules set forth in the

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<sup>9</sup> Football Bowl Subdivision has since consolidated its 11 conferences into 10, with schools that played football in the WAC conference moving to other conferences or becoming independents.

1 NCAA Constitution and Bylaws constitute express, horizontal agreements among the NCAA and its  
2 members.

3 131. NCAA Constitution Article 5.2.2 (“Bylaws”) states that “[e]ach division may adopt  
4 legislation to be included in the operating bylaws of the Association, which provide rules and  
5 regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution and which shall include, but not  
6 be limited to, the following particulars: (a) The administration of intercollegiate athletics by  
7 members of the Association; (b) The establishment and control of NCAA championships (games,  
8 matches, meets and tournaments) and other athletics events sponsored or sanctioned by the  
9 Association; (c) The procedures for administering and enforcing the provisions of the constitution  
10 and bylaws; and (d) The adoption of rules of play and competition in the various sports, and the  
11 delegation of authority in connection with such subjects to individuals, officers or committees.”

12 **6. The NCAA’s enforcement structure.**

13 132. Typically, antitrust cases involving allegations of a price-fixing cartel require  
14 extensive discovery to demonstrate the presence of each element of an effective cartel. In the case of  
15 the NCAA, the agreement, the punishment mechanisms, and the policing mechanisms are each laid  
16 out in clear, publicly-available language.

17 133. The NCAA’s Constitution and Bylaws contain extensive provisions, constituting  
18 express horizontal agreements among competitors, requiring NCAA members to abide by all  
19 provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws, including the athletics grant-in-aid limitation at issue in  
20 this Complaint. The Constitution and Bylaws further contain extensive provisions provided for  
21 discipline of members that do not abide by the rules. The Constitution and Bylaws further provide  
22 detailed monitoring provisions.

23 134. For example, NCAA Constitution Article 1.3.2, titled “Obligations of Member  
24 Institutions,” states that “[l]egislation governing the conduct of intercollegiate athletics programs of  
25 member institutions shall apply to basic athletics issues such as admissions, financial aid, eligibility  
26 and recruiting. Member institutions shall be obligated to apply and enforce this legislation ...”  
27 Article 2.8.1, titled “Responsibility of Institution,” found within Article 2.8, titled “The Principle of  
28 Rules Compliance,” reiterates that “Each institution shall comply with all applicable rules and



1 regulations of the Association in the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics programs,” and that  
2 “[m]embers of an institution’s staff, student-athletes, and other individuals and groups representing  
3 the institution’s athletics interests shall comply with the applicable Association rules, and the  
4 member institution shall be responsible for such compliance.” Article 3.1, titled “Eligibility for  
5 Membership,” reinforces that “institutions or organizations must accept and observe the principles  
6 set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the Association.” Constitution Article 3.2.1.2, titled  
7 “Compliance with Association Rules,” states that “[t]he institution shall administer its athletics  
8 programs in accordance with the constitution, bylaws and other legislation of the Association.”

9 135. Article 3.2.4, titled “Conditions and Obligations of Membership,” states that “[t]he  
10 active members of this Association agree to administer their athletics programs in accordance with  
11 the constitution, bylaws and other legislation of the Association.” Pursuant to Bylaw 18.4.2.1, each  
12 year, by September 15th, each NCAA member must “[c]ertify, through its president or chancellor on  
13 a form approved by the Legislative Council, the institution’s compliance with NCAA legislation.”

14 136. The NCAA’s Constitution and Bylaws contain numerous disciplinary provisions  
15 detailing the dire consequences for any member that breaks the rules. The penalties can include  
16 expulsion from the NCAA. NCAA Constitution Article 1.3.2 states that “the enforcement  
17 procedures of the Association shall be applied to an institution when it fails to fulfill this obligation”  
18 to apply and enforce NCAA legislation. Article 2.8.3, titled “Penalty for Noncompliance,” states  
19 that “[a]n institution found to have violated the Association’s rules shall be subject to such  
20 disciplinary and corrective actions as may be determined by the Association.” Article 3.2.5.1, titled  
21 “Termination of Suspension,” states that “[t]he membership of any active member ... failing to meet  
22 the conditions and obligations of membership may be suspended, terminated or otherwise  
23 disciplined ....” Article 3.01.4 states that “[a]ll rights and privileges of a member shall cease  
24 immediately upon termination or suspension of its membership.” Article 3.2.5.1.1, titled “Cessation  
25 of Rights and Privileges,” states that “[a]ll rights and privileges of the member shall cease upon any  
26 termination or suspension of active membership.”

27 137. The NCAA, in addition to regulating its members, directly regulates college athletes  
28 themselves. For example, the NCAA Bylaw 14.1.3, for example, states that each year, a college

1 athlete “shall sign a statement in a form prescribed by the Legislative Council ... related to ...  
2 eligibility ... financial aid, amateur status ... [f]ailure to complete and sign the statement shall result  
3 in the student-athlete’s ineligibility for participation in all intercollegiate competition.” Bylaw  
4 14.01.3 states that, to be eligible, “a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable  
5 provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association ....” Bylaw 14.1.1 states that, “[t]o be  
6 eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football games,  
7 the student-athlete shall meet all general eligibility requirements.” Constitution Article 3.2.4.3 states  
8 that, “[t]he institution shall be obligated immediately to apply all applicable rules and withhold  
9 ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.” In other words, the NCAA  
10 mandates a collective boycott by all members of any athlete found to have deviated from the price-  
11 fixing activity alleged in this Complaint.

12 138. To reinforce its rules, the NCAA goes even further. For example, Constitution Article  
13 3.2.4.11, titled “Discipline of Members,” states that, “active members shall refrain from athletics  
14 competition with designated institutions as required under the provisions of the Association’s  
15 enforcement procedures.” In other words, the NCAA mandates a collective boycott by all members  
16 of any school found to have deviated from the price-fixing activity alleged in this Complaint.

17 139. NCAA member conferences further enforce NCAA rules. For example, NCAA  
18 member the Pac 12 Conference, headquartered in this District, in Walnut Creek, CA, in its “2013-14  
19 Handbook,” states in its “Statement of Purpose” that “[t]he Conference is formed for the following  
20 purposes: a. To provide its members with a jointly governed body for sponsoring, supervising and  
21 regulating intercollegiate athletics as a conference member of the National Collegiate Athletics  
22 Association (“NCAA”) in accordance with the principles, policies, constitution and bylaws of the  
23 NCAA ...” The Pac 12 continues that “[t]he members of the Conference value: ... Compliance with  
24 Conference and NCAA rules.” The Pac 12 continues that “[t]he Conference may place a member on  
25 probation or suspension, or terminate its membership, by vote of at least three-fourths of all the  
26 members of the CEO Group eligible to vote on the matter, for one or more of the following  
27 reasons: ... Violating rules and regulations of the NCAA, or becoming ineligible for active  
28 membership in Division I of the NCAA, by a written determination of the NCAA; ... Such

1 disciplinary action may also include the assessment of financial penalties.” The Pac 12 continues  
2 that “[t]he Conference is a member of the NCAA, therefore, all member institutions are bound by  
3 NCAA rules and regulations unless the Conference rules are more demanding.” The Pac 12  
4 continues that “[t]he rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association shall govern all matters  
5 concerning financial aid to student-athletes except to the extent that such rules are modified by the  
6 CEO Group.” The Pac 12 continues that “The rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association  
7 shall govern all matters of student-athlete eligibility except to the extent that such rules are modified  
8 for practice and competition in Conference sports by regulations adopted by the CEO Group.”

9 140. As a practical matter, any academic institution that sponsors a men’s football program  
10 in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market must maintain membership in the NCAA and abide  
11 by the rules and regulations promulgated by the NCAA and its members, including the NCAA  
12 Constitution, Bylaws, Executive Regulations and Official Interpretations. All colleges and  
13 universities that participate in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market are NCAA members;  
14 have conferred upon the NCAA the right to sanction and approve games including bowl games; have  
15 agreed to restrictions under which they are forbidden from competing on the field against non-  
16 NCAA teams; and have agreed to abide by all of the NCAA’s rules and regulations. There is no  
17 practical alternative to NCAA membership for any academic institution that wishes to sponsor a  
18 Major College Football program. There is no Major College Football program in the United States  
19 that is not an NCAA member, abiding by the NCAA rules.

20 141. As a result of the NCAA rules embodied in the grant-in-aid cap, no NCAA member  
21 school has provided any college athlete with athletics-based financial aid in excess of the grant-in-aid  
22 cap, other than a few noted “scandals” in which the NCAA imposed punishments on schools for  
23 exceeding the cap through the provision of “under-the-table” benefits.

24 142. The academic institutions in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market  
25 aggressively compete against one another on the field of play, in recruiting college athletes, in  
26 seeking to recruit and retain talented coaching staffs, in building athletic facilities that will attract  
27 athletes and coaches and in soliciting revenues from television, radio and corporate sponsors. Absent  
28

1 the unlawful grant-in-aid cap, the same competitive forces would result in more valuable grants-in-  
2 aid and other forms of direct compensation.

3 **B. The NCAA Bylaw Challenged in this Litigation**

4 143. The Plaintiff in this litigation specifically challenges NCAA Bylaw 15.1, titled  
5 “Maximum Limit on Financial Aid – Individual,” which states in pertinent part the following: “A  
6 student-athlete may receive institutional financial aid based on athletics ability (per Bylaw 15.02.4.1)  
7 and educational expenses awarded per Bylaw 15.2.6.4 up to the value of a full grant-in-aid ...”  
8 Bylaw 15.02.5, titled “Full Grant-in-Aid,” states that “A full grant-in-aid is financial aid that consists  
9 of tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books.”

10 144. Other NCAA Bylaws reinforce the prohibition. Bylaw 12.01.1 states that “[o]nly an  
11 amateur student-athlete is eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in a particular sport.”  
12 Bylaw 12.1.2 states that “[a]n individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for  
13 intercollegiate competition in a particular sport if the individual: Uses his or her athletics skill  
14 (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport ....” Bylaw 12.02.7 states that “[p]ay is the  
15 receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for  
16 participation in athletics.” Bylaw 12.01.4, titled “Permissible Grant-in-Aid,” states that “[a] grant-in-  
17 aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for  
18 athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association’s  
19 membership.” Bylaw 12.1.2.1, titled “Prohibited Forms of Pay,” states that “[p]ay, as used in  
20 Bylaw 12.1.2 above, includes, but is not limited to the following: ... Educational expenses not  
21 permitted by the governing legislation of this Association (see Bylaw 15 regarding permissible  
22 financial aid to enrolled student-athletes).” Bylaw 15.01.2 states that “[a]ny student-athlete who  
23 receives financial aid other than that permitted by the Association shall not be eligible for  
24 intercollegiate athletics.”

25 145. Under the grant-in-aid cap, which is set forth in Division I Bylaw 15.02.5, a “Full  
26 Grant-In Aid” to a college athlete is defined as “financial aid that consists of tuition and fees, room  
27 and board, and required course-related books.” The grant-in-aid for each member institution is thus  
28 expressly restricted to cover an amount less than the full Cost of Attendance at any member

1 institution, because the Cost of Attendance is separately and more broadly defined by NCAA  
2 Division I Bylaw 15.02.2 to be “an amount calculated by an institutional financial aid office, using  
3 federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and  
4 supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution.” It is also  
5 expressly restricted below the level that would prevail in a market free of anti-competitive collusion,  
6 as is made clear by the statements of the Power Conference Defendants, their member schools, and  
7 their co-conspirators and co-conspirator’s member schools. As described below, absent collusion  
8 regarding GIA’s, the Power Conference Defendants would raise the amount they offer to athletes in  
9 the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market above the current maximum allowed GIA.

10 146. NCAA Bylaw 15.02.2.1, titled “Calculation of Cost of Attendance,” further states that  
11 “An institution must calculate the Cost of Attendance for student-athletes in accordance with the  
12 cost-of-attendance policies and procedures that are used for students in general. Accordingly, if an  
13 institution’s policy allows for students’ direct and indirect costs (*e.g.*, tuition, fees, room and board,  
14 books, supplies, transportation, child care, cost related to a disability and miscellaneous personal  
15 expenses) to be adjusted on an individual basis from the institution’s standard cost figure, it is  
16 permissible to make the same adjustment for student-athletes, provided the adjustment is  
17 documented and is available on an equitable basis to all students with similar circumstances who  
18 request an adjustment.” Therefore, for every member of the proposed class, each university has  
19 already calculated his Cost of Attendance figure, per NCAA requirements.

20 147. The NCAA enforces the agreed upon grant-in-aid cap through a further agreement  
21 under which any college athlete who receives athletics-based financial aid in excess of the grant-in-  
22 aid cap is ineligible to compete in NCAA sports. NCAA members have set up elaborate and  
23 sophisticated mechanisms to monitor compliance and penalize violations of the horizontal restraints  
24 on trade. Among other things, the NCAA requires members to report each college athlete’s financial  
25 aid information to the NCAA on or before the first day of outside competition for the sport in which  
26 the college athlete participates. This information is compiled onto a form known as a “Squad List”  
27 and each Power Conference Defendants’ member school maintains control of this document. The  
28 NCAA makes available to its members, at no charge, compliance software that applies NCAA

1 regulations to college athletes' information, generates reports to the NCAA and warns the member  
2 when the jointly imposed limit on a college athlete's financial aid has been exceeded. Violations are  
3 adjudicated and penalties imposed by competing member institutions.

4 148. Any Division I member that deviates from the NCAA rules limiting the amount, terms  
5 and conditions of financial aid to college athletes is subject to severe sanctions, including expulsion,  
6 under NCAA rules. These punishments have included a complete ban on football participation (the  
7 "death penalty") as well as a reduction in the number of grants-in-aid a school can offer. The very  
8 fact that a reduction in the number of grants-in-aid is seen as a severe punishment is a clear sign as to  
9 how valuable even the last scholarship athlete on a team is.

10 149. Moreover, because NCAA rules prohibit members from playing games with non-  
11 NCAA members, an expelled member would be unable to continue participating in major college  
12 sports. Because sports businesses, like college football teams, require opponents to provide a game  
13 for its consumers, and require multiple opponents to form a league season of football that culminates  
14 in a league championship, an organized, collective boycott of all other participants in Major College  
15 Football constitutes a tremendous barrier to any one team (or even a small handful of teams)  
16 succeeding in forming a rival league if boycotted by all NCAA members. Thus, the NCAA's price-  
17 fixing regime is designed with strict enforcement built in that prevents a fracturing of the cartel.

18 150. As a result, in practice, Division I schools do not deviate from the rules limiting the  
19 amount, terms and conditions of financial aid to college athletes other than the exceptional case of  
20 what the NCAA refers to as "cheating" such as providing excessively luxurious accommodations  
21 (Reggie Bush) or too many text books (Nebraska).

22 151. For many years, the grant-in-aid cap has restricted the amount of athletics-based  
23 financial aid available to college athletes in NCAA Division I, and it continues to do so to this day.  
24 As the NCAA itself writes "[a]n 'incidental allowance' of \$15 per month was once justified as an  
25 educational expense that was tied to Cost of Attendance, but was eliminated from the NCAA grant-  
26 in-aid definition in the 1970s." This statement refers to the anti-competitive decision in 1976 to take  
27 an already collusive limitation on compensation to athletes and further reduce it through a collusive  
28 decision to remove certain elements of the then-permitted GIA. While in 1975-76, the NCAA

1 allowed its members to provide direct compensation up to the value of "... commonly accepted  
2 educational expenses (i.e., tuition and fees; room and board; required course-related supplies and  
3 books, and incidental expenses not in excess of fifteen dollars per month) ...," as of 1976-77, that  
4 limit was lowered to include only "... commonly accepted educational expenses (i.e., tuition and  
5 fees, room and board and required course-related books) ..." Thus, since 1976-77, through the  
6 artificial limitations on financial aid embodied in the grant-in-aid cap, the NCAA and its members  
7 have agreed among themselves not to include in financial aid such costs as school supplies,  
8 recommended text books, laundry expenses, travel costs and incidental expenses. (In addition, a cap  
9 prohibiting the provision of health and disability insurance existed until eliminated via a legal  
10 settlement in 2008.)

11 152. Without the grant-in-aid cap, the colleges and universities that sponsor Major College  
12 Football and compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market would provide athletic  
13 scholarships in an amount in line with the college athlete's value in a competitive market. The same  
14 competitive forces that drive schools to provide coaches with million dollar salaries and build lavish  
15 athletic facilities would also compel those schools to provide athletics-based grants-in-aid at a truly  
16 competitive level. Indeed, the athletic directors of the University of Texas acknowledged this in a  
17 2013 Declaration in other litigation in this District, when they declared that "[i]ntroduction of that  
18 kind of commercial recruiting competition for and between student-athletes would heavily impact  
19 recruiting throughout NCAA institutions, including Division I. At least some student-athletes would  
20 likely gravitate toward schools that would 'pay' them the most amount of money...." The grant-in-  
21 aid cap thus enables the NCAA, its member colleges and universities, and the coaches to reap all of  
22 the financial benefits of big-time college sports, while depriving Class Members of millions of  
23 dollars in athletics-based financial aid.

24 153. Through the grant-in-aid cap, the NCAA and its members have thus contracted,  
25 combined and conspired to fix, depress or stabilize the amount, terms and conditions of athletics-  
26 based financial assistance to Class Members in the relevant market.

27 154. The grant-in-aid cap has been successful and effective. As a result of the grant-in-aid  
28 cap, Class Members receive lower amounts of financial assistance and other direct compensation



1 than they would receive if Class Members were permitted to receive athletics-based financial aid  
2 covering their costs of attendance.

3 155. Absent the horizontal restraint on competition imposed through the grant-in-aid cap,  
4 competitive grant-in-aid offers would be an important means by which NCAA Division I members  
5 would compete for and recruit Class Members, Class Members would receive more generous  
6 scholarships as a result of competition among those schools. Defendants' collusive restraint on  
7 grants-in-aid violates the United States' antitrust laws. The restraint's anti-competitive effects  
8 substantially outweigh any alleged pro-competitive effects that Defendants may offer.

9 **1. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives exist.**

10 156. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants'  
11 current anti-competitive practices. For example, one less restrictive alternative may be to allow the  
12 Power Conference Defendants to compete amongst each other as to the financial aid terms that  
13 conference members will make available to college football players. *See, e.g.*, Jonathan Mahler,  
14 Business Week, "College Athletes Should be Paid Exactly This Much," January 2, 2014 ("Once the  
15 NCAA monopoly has been broken, the various conferences would be free to write rules for their  
16 respective members. Some conferences might even experiment with salary caps and see how the  
17 market reacts. As long as they weren't colluding to fix prices – as they are doing now – the market  
18 would find an equilibrium."). Such incremental competition would allay the fears (even though  
19 unfounded) of those that decry the repercussions of an instantaneous transition to a wide-open free  
20 market, with every school making its own independent decisions.

21 157. The Power Conference Defendants already compete with each other in a myriad of  
22 ways. Among the most obvious is their competition in the Coaching Labor Market to attract the best  
23 coaches to help recruit athletes and to win games. In litigation captioned *Law v. NCAA*, the plaintiffs  
24 challenged efforts similar to the grant-in-aid cap in suit that were undertaken to fix the price of  
25 (basketball) coaching talent. In that case, after applying a quick look, the Court, and the Circuit  
26 Court of Appeals, both found the NCAA's nationwide collusion of this labor market violated the  
27 antitrust laws. Despite the NCAA's claim that such rules were necessary to the survival of college  
28



1 sports, no such collapse has occurred. Instead, as Gary Barta, the Athletic Director of the University  
2 of Iowa (a member of Defendant Big Ten Conference) recently explained on Iowa Public television:

3 “... we have to compete with the marketplace, and the marketplace says  
4 ‘this is what a football coach makes, this is what a basketball coach  
5 makes, this is what a tennis coach makes, and I’m expected to win, I’m  
6 expected to graduate, and so I have to participate in that marketplace.  
7 you see, and I’m happy to do so.”<sup>10</sup>

8 His counterpart at Iowa State, Jamie Pollard, explained how the need to attract students creates  
9 demand for quality coaches:

10 “Well, I’ll break it down to a simple question. A student-athlete, when  
11 they’re choosing which school to go to, chooses based on the facilities,  
12 based on coaches, based on the academic institution. If Gary [Barta,  
13 Iowa A.D.] or I took the opinion that we’re not going to pay the market  
14 rate for [Iowa State football coach] Paul Rose or [Iowa football coach]  
15 Kirk [Ferentz] that would impact some of those decisions those  
16 student-athletes would make. So you know we could all sit and say  
17 well, they’re overpaid or that’s a lot of money to be paid but it is the  
18 marketplace. It is what it is.”<sup>11</sup>

19 158. In the absence of the anti-competitive, collusive restraint detailed herein, the Power  
20 Conference Defendants could be expected to compete along these same lines regarding the terms of  
21 the financial aid that their member institutions offer to current and prospective college football  
22 players. The Power Conference Defendants appear to be thriving. Each is run by smart business  
23 executives capable of negotiating billion dollar television deals. Surely each of them can  
24 independently determine a method to compete regarding grants-in-aid, while still preserving  
25 consumer interest in Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football. Indeed, if each conference were  
26 to determine in its own independent determination that by offering its athletes more than the Cost of  
27 Attendance, it would lose fan interest and thus suffer a decline in revenue, nothing in an open market  
28 would compel them to make such a business-losing payment offer. However, were the individual  
conferences to collude before making that determination, this would constitute a continued violation  
of the antitrust laws. Thus, such competition should not occur without judicial oversight. Plaintiff  
therefore requests the appointment of an Antitrust Compliance Monitor, as detailed elsewhere herein,

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=68](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=68).

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=88](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=88).

1 to ensure that Defendants do not unlawfully impede competition among themselves even after the  
2 NCAA is enjoined from enforcing the current price-fixing agreement.

3 159. Each conference has indicated that if left to design its own compensation plan, each  
4 would increase the current levels by at least the difference between the current collusively-set grant-  
5 in-aid maximum and the true Cost of Attendance. Ending collusion would widen consumer choice  
6 as each Power Conference Defendant (as well as their co-conspirators) could choose the level of  
7 payment that best balances its desire to attract the best talent with the perceived reaction of its  
8 consumers (broadcasters, alumni, other students, fans). If a given conference felt that payment in  
9 excess of this new Cost of Attendance level were in its best financial interest, it could make such an  
10 offer. On the other hand, if a conference felt that such payments would be detrimental to overall  
11 demand, then even absent a national collusive cap, that conference need not offer more, and would  
12 live with the quality of team it could attract with a Cost of Attendance offer.

13 160. Defendants' conduct, therefore, artificially limits and narrows consumer choice, and  
14 prevents new products from existing.

15 161. Defendant NCAA's expert, in other litigation, has also testified that lifting the current  
16 cap would be pro-competitive as well: "For example, I have asked myself, suppose that the NCAA  
17 were to define differently what is an appropriate payment that would cover student expenses and  
18 tuition and to change that amount. It's a subject that has been under some debate, and I think there  
19 are changes in the rules that could be made that would still achieve the pro-competitive purposes that  
20 the NCAA has set out, but I have not seen my charge by the NCAA as advising them as to how to  
21 change their regulations."

22 162. The ABA's "Antitrust" publication in 2000 focused on antitrust issues in sports,  
23 including college sports. In that journal they published an analysis of the NCAA's price-fixing rules  
24 and concluded that less restrictive alternatives, such as conference-based competition, exist:

25 [A] more viable alternative, that recognizes the necessity of  
26 coordination among teams to create league sports, is to devolve power  
27 from the NCAA to the various collegiate conferences. Conferences can  
28 play the procompetitive joint venture role accepted by the courts in  
their treatment of sports leagues, creating the necessary competitive  
framework for the existence of the product. Each conference, then,  
could choose a common wage regime, and within that conference, the

necessary balance for the creation of a team sport would be maintained, without the need for an overarching super-cartel to control the entire market for college-age athletes....<sup>12</sup>

163. Existent dimensions of competition among NCAA member conferences include competing: (1) on non-monetary terms to attract the best football players to their conferences; (2) to attract member institutions (a phenomenon known, as of late, by the term “conference realignment”); (3) to retain member institutions; (4) to provide desirable revenue sharing among member institutions (whether equal sharing, or unequal sharing); (5) to provide conference “stability”; (6) to attract favorable television broadcast revenues; (7) to provide conference-owned television networks; (8) to attract sponsorship monies; and (9) to retain the most qualified referees and officials.

164. More specifically, one aspect of competition among conferences involves competing on whether revenue will be shared equally among member schools, or according to other formulas featuring a component of non-equal sharing. For example, on September 21, 2011, ESPN.com reported that “[t]he Pac-12 decided it won’t expand further late Tuesday because commissioner Larry Scott failed to get assurance that Texas [a member of the Big 12 conference] would back an equal revenue sharing plan if the league added the Longhorns, [Big 12 conference members] Oklahoma, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State, a source with direct knowledge told ESPN.com.”

165. In 2013, a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the University of Maryland, College Park (“Maryland”), initiated litigation against the Atlantic Coast Conference, triggered by issues relating to when, on “November 19, 2012, Maryland publicly announced its intention to [leave the Atlantic Coast Conference and] join the Big Ten Conference beginning on July 1, 2014.” Maryland’s complaint is notable for, among other things, detailing the competition among conferences as follows:

Competition is not limited to members of the same conference, who compete both on and off the field. Each conference, as a joint venture of the university members, competes in many ways with other conferences (typically joint ventures among a separate and distinct set of other universities). Conferences (or associations of member schools) compete for member schools, sales of tickets, sale of broadcasting rights, advertising and sponsorships, and opportunities for

<sup>12</sup> Rascher, Daniel A. and Andrew D. Schwarz, “Neither Reasonable nor Necessary: ‘Amateurism’ in Big-Time College Sports,” Antitrust, Spring 2000, pp. 51-56.

1 their members to compete in lucrative athletic contests, such as the  
2 Bowl Championship Series in football and the NCAA men's and  
3 women's basketball tournaments.

3 There exists a market in which intercollegiate athletic conferences  
4 compete for member institutions. Conferences often leverage  
5 broadcasting revenues to enhance the attractiveness of their athletic  
6 associations to prospective members. Various conferences have  
7 recruited and added member institutions to create or maintain  
8 appealing rivalries and enhanced competition, in order to increase fan  
9 interest, broadcasting ratings, and sponsorship appeal, with the goals of  
10 improving the product offerings of the conference, increasing revenues  
11 to the conference and its members, and enhancing its members'  
12 reputations and brands.

13 166. Competition among NCAA member conferences to attract new member institutions  
14 has been very well-documented. *The New York Times*, in an article dated November 30, 2013, titled  
15 "Tracing the History of N.C.A.A. Conferences," reported that "[a] frenzy of realignment has  
16 transformed college athletics: about one in four major football programs has switched conferences  
17 since 2010. The effects are only starting to play out as programs build new infrastructure to televise  
18 and market their programs, especially in up-and-coming conferences. As conferences have become  
19 essential to stay competitive, the number of unaffiliated major schools has declined sharply." *The*  
20 *New York Times* provides a detailed, interactive chart, documenting conference switching among  
21 "[m]ajor college football programs since 1965" at this Internet website:  
22 <http://www.nytimes.com/newsgraphics/2013/11/30/football-conferences/> (last visited February 5,  
23 2014).

24 167. Maryland's complaint against Defendant Atlantic Coast Conference provides  
25 additional information on conference realignment and competition:

26 Changes in the alignment of colleges and universities within athletic  
27 conferences have occurred with increased frequency in recent years.  
28 Within 2012 alone, major revisions in membership occurred or were  
announced not only with respect to the ACC, but also in other  
collegiate athletic conferences.

The rapid conference realignment that has occurred in recent years  
(and that is likely to continue, absent unreasonable restraints on  
competition) has enabled institutions of higher learning to enhance the  
academic, athletic, and research opportunities available to their  
students, student-athletes, and faculty through both increased revenues  
and enhanced visibility and reputational benefits.

1 Conference realignment is a method by which an academic institution  
2 can enhance its reputation and brand and its ability to attract student-  
3 athletes, students, faculty, and coaches. Realignment also presents an  
4 opportunity for universities to join conferences with universities with  
5 common attributes and missions.

6 Conference realignment creates conferences that are more appealing to  
7 intercollegiate athletics fans, which results in greater competition and  
8 greater benefits to consumers from the products offered by those  
9 conferences. Realignment of conferences creates the opportunity to  
10 attract to conference athletic events fans and consumers who are  
11 otherwise not following intercollegiate athletics.

12 Both historically and recently, the ACC has been an active participant  
13 in the market to recruit universities to become athletic conference  
14 members by aggressively pursuing and adding members. The ACC  
15 was founded in 1953 by seven universities that all left the Southern  
16 Conference. Shortly thereafter, the University of Virginia also  
17 withdrew from the Southern Conference to join the ACC. In 1971, the  
18 University of South Carolina withdrew from the ACC and later joined  
19 the Southeastern Conference. Thereafter, Georgia Tech, once part of  
20 the Southeastern Conference and a charter member of the Southern  
21 Intercollegiate Athletic Association, joined the ACC. In 1991, the  
22 ACC extended membership to Florida State, a charter member of the  
23 Dixie Conference and former member of the Metropolitan Collegiate  
24 Athletic Conference.

25 The ACC's membership remained the same until approximately 2004,  
26 when the ACC initiated the most recent trend of conference  
27 realignment. That year, the University of Miami and Virginia Tech  
28 left the Big East Conference to join the ACC. One year later, Boston  
College followed.

Recently, the ACC has been extremely active in the market for new  
conference members. In 2012, Syracuse University and the University  
of Pittsburgh announced that they will withdraw from the Big East  
Conference and join the ACC in 2013. On September 12, 2012, the  
ACC announced that the University of Notre Dame will join the  
conference by 2015 for all conference-sponsored sports except football  
(although Notre Dame has agreed to play five ACC football teams  
each season). Most recently, on November 28, 2012, ACC presidents  
and chancellors voted to admit the University of Louisville (in a  
meeting from which Maryland was improperly and illegally excluded).  
Louisville is scheduled to leave the Big East and become an ACC  
member in 2014.

168. Conferences and their members compete on the strength of the conference's brand,  
including to recruit college football players. For example, on February 6, 2013, *Yahoo! Sports*  
reported:

"Kids want to play in the SEC," [new Kentucky football coach Mark]  
Stoops told *Yahoo! Sports* Wednesday morning. "It's important, we

1 have a great program, a great school in a great location and we play in  
the best conference in America.” ...

2 “SEC membership isn’t the ultimate trump card, but it’s a pretty good  
3 one,” said Rivals.com national recruiting expert Mike Farrell. “The  
4 SEC is a great selling point. A lot of kids choose the SEC not just  
because they have the best chance to win a national title, but to play  
5 against a better caliber of competition.” ...

6 While it is nothing new for SEC programs landing coveted recruits –  
predictably, Alabama, Florida and LSU were all ranked in the top  
7 five – the depth of the dominance is something new.... That’s the  
power of the league brand. Fans of rival conferences can be excused  
8 for getting sick of the “SEC, SEC” chant and the fawning media  
coverage that follows. But just imagine how their coaches feel hearing  
9 it on the recruiting trail.... “These schools have even proven they can  
go out of the region and bring kids to the SEC,” Farrell said. “That’s  
10 new.” ...

11 Again, it’s one thing for Alabama or Florida to recruit nationally. But  
everyone? Ole Miss landed wide receiver (Laquon Treadwell) from  
12 Illinois. Auburn got defensive end (Tashawn Bower) out of New  
Jersey and defensive end (Elijah Daniel) from suburban Indianapolis.  
13 South Carolina went to Philadelphia for running back David Williams.  
And Kentucky picked up defensive back Marcus McWilson out of  
14 Youngstown, Ohio.

15 Rival fans can complain about SEC bias, SEC hype, even SEC over-  
signing. No one is arguing against that. This is what National Signing  
16 Day is, however, and this is what the system has delivered.

17 A world where one conference’s high tide has lifted all boats, even in,  
of all places, the long-lowly, just-waiting-for-basketball-season Big  
18 Blue of Kentucky.

19 169. On July 27, 2010, *Sports Illustrated* reported, regarding the Pac 12, the following:

20 “I don’t think it’s far-fetched to think that five years from now, you’ll  
see Pac-10 teams competing in Asia, hosting teams over here, and the  
21 brand of the Pac-10 starting to built over there and exposed on TV,”  
[Pac-12 Commissioner Larry] Scott said. “That’s going to provide  
22 some great opportunity for student-athletes.” He also hopes it might  
pave the way for more academic collaboration between Pac-10 schools  
23 and Asian universities.

24 A “logical byproduct,” Scott said, is the potential to eventually recruit  
athletes from Asia.

25 170. Conferences compete to attract other personnel, not merely college football players.

26 For example, *USA Today*, on March 12, 2009, reported that the John W. Adams, the NCAA’s  
27 coordinator of men’s basketball officiating, stated that “[t]here’s competition (among conferences)  
28



1 for the best officials on certain days. They're independent contractors, and many of them do it for a  
2 living."

3 171. In July 2010, *Sports Illustrated* reported the following comments from the now-  
4 NCAA President Mark Emmert, who was then the President of Pac 12 member the University of  
5 Washington:

6 "The Pac-10 has always had a very good reputation," said Washington  
7 president Mark Emmert, who will take over as NCAA president on  
8 Nov. 1. "The brand has always stood for academic quality and  
9 integrity. We certainly wanted to keep all that in place because it's  
10 essential and central to who we are. But it also had a bit of a stodgy, a  
11 little bit self satisfied image that we wanted to change.

12 We wanted to demonstrate that out west, people are engaged in  
13 innovation and creativity. We are the home of Microsoft and Google,  
14 and we do build airplanes. We do all sorts of exciting and dynamic  
15 things out west. ... Yet the conference wasn't really a reflection of that  
16 energy."

17 172. President Emmert's remarks surely could find application in regards to determining a  
18 viable, less restrictive alternative to the restraint challenged herein. Of interest, given President  
19 Emmert's reference to Google, are the following September 2012 remarks of Google's Chief Legal  
20 Officer, David C. Drummond, himself a former college football player:

21 The problem with college sports is not too much money; it's the lack  
22 of basic self-awareness. Even if you believe that amateurism was at  
23 one time a reasonable and attainable ideal. That time has obviously  
24 passed. Compensating athletes is clearly part of the answer, but it's  
25 not the whole answer; what college sports need now is a redesign. And  
26 that redesign will have many important details. But what's clear is that  
27 Version 2.0 of the college sports business will need to recognize that  
28 it's an American business and behave accordingly. Some would say  
that this is an incredibly tall order, perhaps too tall. Fair enough. But  
to the reformers in the room, I would urge you to consider a saying we  
really like at Google: sometimes really good things come from having  
a healthy disregard for the impossible.

173. Drummond offered his own solution, one that could thrive in the less restrictive  
alternative of conference competition outlined above. Drummond explained:

The first norm that technology transfer managers knew they should  
respect was the one that says that people who contribute to a  
commercial endeavor should be compensated in a way that is at least  
rationally related to their contribution. At Stanford, the policy for  
licensed inventions calls for one-third of the royalties to go to the  
inventor, one-third to the inventors' department, and one-third to the  
inventors' school. Where the school accepts start-up equity in lieu of



1 cash royalties, it is typically a very small percentage, in the case of  
 2 Google, about 2%. This means that the founders of Google were able  
 3 to reap the benefits of their hard work and ingenuity, even though they  
 4 were still students at Stanford.

5 Under this less restrictive alternative, not every school or conference would be required to adopt the  
 6 Stanford system, or any specific model. But it would be open to them as a choice, with respect to  
 7 how best to compete for talent in the Football Bowl Subdivision and how best to offer its  
 8 downstream consumers a choice when it sells its products of conference football in competition with  
 9 other conferences' offerings. Under the current system of collusion and mandate, no school is able  
 10 to widen choice by offering alternative models to the NCAA's collusive, we-know-better-than-the-  
 11 market restriction on competition and choice.

12 **C. The NCAA's Public Statements Regarding the Pro-competitive Nature of the Proposed**  
 13 **Stipend and Absence of Pro-competitive Justifications for Capping Compensation at**  
 14 **Current Levels**

15 174. The NCAA has made a litany of public comments seemingly supporting the concept  
 16 of a stipend. Each one seems potentially promising in a vacuum, until one realizes they got back to  
 17 at least as early as 2003 (leaving aside that these stipends were provided prior to 1976-77 and only  
 18 stopped by action of the NCAA), with little change ever following the statements.

19 **1. 2014 Statements.**

20 175. In January 2014, NCAA Division I Board of Directors Chairman Nathan Hatch, also  
 21 the President of NCAA Division I member Wake Forest University, circulated a letter to NCAA  
 22 members regarding a "template prepared by the Division I Board of Directors' Steering Committee  
 23 on Governance that is intended to aid participants during the January 16 and 17 Division I Dialogue  
 24 in San Diego." The "template" includes a "Proposed Legislative Structure" regarding "Legislative  
 25 Autonomy" that is "[d]efined as the ability, within the current NCAA structure, for the SEC, B1G  
 26 [sic, i.e. the Big Ten], PAC-12, Atlantic Coast Conference and Big 12 conferences and their  
 27 institutions to adopt reforms in a regulatory structure that respects the demands on student-athletes in  
 28 the 21st century and acknowledges the need for these conferences / institutions to define rules that  
 address their unique challenges."

1           176. The document continues that one of the “Proposed Areas of Autonomy” is to  
2 “[d]efine a full grant-in-aid as meeting a student-athlete’s cost of attendance in a manner consistent  
3 with the core values of the collegiate model and not to exceed total cost of attendance.”

4           177. On January 13, 2014, the *Associated Press* reported that “NCAA President Mark  
5 Emmert said Monday that providing a stipend to student-athletes seems less threatening to the  
6 schools that earlier knocked down a proposal to increase the value of a scholarship to cover the full  
7 cost of attendance. ‘It seems to be a much less controversial notion today than it was 18 months  
8 ago,’ Emmert said of the stipend proposal. ‘As we’ve talked about it more and the membership has  
9 had a chance to digest it, it’s being seen as less threatening.’”

10           **2. 2013 Statements.**

11           178. On January 20, 2013, the *Associated Press* referenced President Emmert and reported  
12 that “When talking about a needs-based proposal, Emmert used as an example his cousin who was a  
13 volleyball MVP at [the University of] Washington. ‘I know my cousin’s circumstances and she  
14 didn’t need it,’ he said. “But there were other players on that team for whom that would probably  
15 have been very important.””

16           179. On April 10, 2013, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that “[w]hen [NCAA  
17 President] Mark Emmert gathered together more than 50 college presidents nearly two years ago to  
18 discuss ideas for reforming big-time sports, the group came to a pretty clear consensus on the need to  
19 increase aid to athletes.” The article continued that “[w]ith big money flowing in from TV contracts,  
20 and increasing amounts going toward coaches’ salaries and facilities, the idea of allowing Division I  
21 colleges to direct up to \$2,000 more a year to certain players seemed to make sense.” The  
22 unfortunate postscript: “after a series of failed attempts to carry out the proposal, the NCAA is  
23 essentially back to the drawing board.”

24           180. The article quoted Sidney A. McPhee, the President of NCAA member Middle  
25 Tennessee State, and a proponent of the stipend, as being the “head of the NCAA Student-Athlete  
26 Well-Being Working Group” and the “chief arbiter of the stipend debate.” It further states that “[t]he  
27 climate has frustrated Mr. McPhee, who believes that even the less-wealthy programs have an  
28 obligation to make a priority of players and their unmet financial needs. ‘If you want to compete [in

1 Division I,]’ he says, ‘you’ve got to step up.’” (bracketed text in original). The article continues that  
 2 “[i]t’s also a matter of fairness, he says. Institutions increase aid packages for other students all the  
 3 time, so why shouldn’t they do it for athletes too?” The article continues that “[o]ver the past few  
 4 months, Mr. McPhee has expanded his group to include more athletic directors, presidents, financial-  
 5 aid directors, and others. In recent weeks the group has spent much more time looking at the concept  
 6 of aid and different ways to enhance it.” The article explained that rather than base any cap on  
 7 athlete compensation on an assessment of the least restrictive alternative available, it was a simple  
 8 question of what best suited the self-interest of the members of the cartel: “[i]n a recent straw poll,  
 9 the group agreed almost unanimously with the idea of allowing increased aid for athletes. Still,  
 10 Mr. McPhee is not optimistic that Division I members will ultimately support such a change. ‘There  
 11 is still continuing opposition to doing anything,’ he says. ‘I’m afraid that whatever we do will have a  
 12 high likelihood of an override.’”

13 181. An article in *U.S. News & World Report*, dated September 16, 2013 regarding stipend  
 14 and other proposed reforms, stated that the NCAA Division I Board of Directors “hope to adopt  
 15 proposals at its meeting next April [2014], and then have a special meeting for the membership next  
 16 summer. ‘That could involve bringing all 350 members of Division I together and having every  
 17 school vote on it,’ [NCAA President] Emmert said. ‘It’ll be a bit like a constitutional convention.’”  
 18 Except of course, in this case, the “convention” is in fact an open meeting of an anti-competitive  
 19 cartel, explicitly meeting to discuss whether the current fixed-price offering should be adjusted to  
 20 another fixed-price offering.

21 182. On November 24, 2013, *The New York Times* reported that “Elizabeth Altmaier, a  
 22 professor of Iowa who served on a number of N.C.A.A. panels on commercialism as a faculty  
 23 athletics representative, said she believed there needed to be a way for college athletes to get more  
 24 than scholarships. ‘People who say, in a very superior manner, that these kids had a college  
 25 education and that’s sufficient remuneration are naïve at best, and blind at worst, to the realities of  
 26 being a student athlete in a Division I institution.’”

27 183. On December 11, 2013, *The New York Times* reported President Emmert as stating:  
 28 “There is an interest in making sure that full cost of attendance is covered. ... That number varies

1 from school to school. It can vary from \$0 to \$6,000. A debate the members will have to have is,  
2 are we going to allow the closing of that gap? And if so, how high can we go? No one right now  
3 wants to go above full cost of attendance, that a student-athlete could get what it costs to be a  
4 student, but they're students, not unionized employees, not somebody that's on the payroll." It is  
5 clear that the NCAA believes that it, its co-Defendants and other co-conspirators, can act with  
6 impunity with respect to price competition in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, and that  
7 rather than facing a market price, they will pay whatever they "allow" cartel members to offer.

8 **3. 2012 Statements.**

9 184. An *Associated Press* article dated December 5, 2012 stated that "Emmert chided  
10 athletic programs that make major decisions guided by efforts to generate more revenue, then  
11 complain they can't afford a stipend. At the forum, which is sponsored by IMG and hosted by  
12 SportsBusiness Daily/Global/Journal, Emmert said of conference realignment: 'When people say  
13 it's all about the money, that's not inaccurate.' He later took that argument to the stipends cause:  
14 'When the world believes it's all a money grab, how can you say we can stick with the same  
15 scholarship model as 40 years ago?'"

16 185. An article dated December 6, 2012, and presently posted by the NCAA on its website,  
17 is titled "NCAA President Emmert fights for student-athletes' right to more funds." It states that  
18 "NCAA President Mark Emmert is still determined to provide college athletes with 2,000 dollars for  
19 expenses not covered by scholarships." It continues that "[t]he stipends would help cover the full  
20 cost of attending college, which scholarships don't meet, providing money for expenses beyond  
21 tuition, room and board, books and fees." The article continued that "[t]he biggest key to  
22 implementing the stipends may be changing schools' mindsets. 'This is a branding issue,' Emmert  
23 said." The article continued that "Emmert chided programs that make major decisions guided by  
24 efforts to generate more revenue, then complain they can't afford a stipend." The article continued  
25 that "Emmert argues that money is not the issue. Money is pouring in from TV deals. The new  
26 college football playoff contract will be worth about 470 million dollars a year."

1                   **4.       2011 Statements.**

2           186.    On May 24, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website an article by an NCAA member  
3 school's assistant director of compliance, who stated that "A few hundred bucks a month is not going  
4 to make a great deal of difference for student-athletes who are offered lavish gifts like cars, personal  
5 training, jewelry, trips to South Beach, etc. But according to former NFL agent Josh Luchs, many  
6 times the benefits used to recruit a student-athlete are fairly modest. If a student-athlete can no longer  
7 be swayed by pocket money, agents will be forced to provide bigger benefits to student-athletes. And  
8 bigger benefits are easier to catch ... With the full cost of attendance covered for revenue sports and  
9 star athletes, plus all the existing and legal ways to get cash to a student-athlete, it will no longer be a  
10 case of *needing* to take money from agents or boosters."

11           187.    NCAA President Mark Emmert also has repeatedly explained that there is little  
12 chance that such payments will generate concerns regarding competitive balance because the power  
13 of competition along many indirect fronts has already distributed talent in proportion to a  
14 school's/conference's ability to compete for talent directly through the relief requested here:

15                   a.        "When you look at a student who's being recruited by heavily funded  
16 institutions, those kids are rarely asking, "Do I go here, or do I go to an institution that has less  
17 money? If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic program, they're going to  
18 go."<sup>13</sup>

19                   b.        "I don't think any of the Butler kids were recruited by, you know, by  
20 Kansas."<sup>14</sup>

21                   c.        "So if you've got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn't  
22 going to make much of a difference."<sup>15</sup>

23  
24                   <sup>13</sup> [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/\\_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)  
25 [rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes:](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes) [Emmert] When you look at a student who's being  
26 recruited by heavily funded institutions, those kids are rarely asking, "Do I go here, or do I go to an  
27 institution that has less money?" If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic  
28 program, they're going to go.

<sup>14</sup> [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/\\_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)  
[rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes.](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)

<sup>15</sup> [http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-](http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-gap-2251444.php)  
gap-2251444.php: "Well, the gap right now is pretty enormous. If you look at the lowest-resourced

188. Emmert explained: “As for the continued separation of the haves and the have nots, that’s economics, Emmert said. ‘We’ve always had that. The financial differences have always been there. Some universities have huge competitive advantages [because] of history and culture and decisions that the university made over decades that are in some ways insurmountable and you wouldn’t want to take them away. ... I’m sure Alabama under Bear Bryant had these stunning competitive advantages ... Now to say that the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Alabama have huge competitive disadvantages it didn’t look much different 40 years ago. It reinforces some of those inherent advantages some of those universities have had for a century.’”<sup>16</sup>

189. In a memo he wrote to then-recently chosen President Mark Emmert, Wally Renfro, the long-time Vice President of the NCAA, characterized Division I as being divided into the top 25 percent (the “haves”), the middle 50 percent (the “have-nots”), and the bottom 25 percent (the “forget-about-its”), and stated that the last group “has largely stopped trying to compete.”<sup>17</sup>

190. On December 15, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website another article by an NCAA member school’s assistant director of compliance, who stated that “Proposal 2011-96, which allows schools to provide up to \$2,000 beyond the current grant-in-aid limits, is not an unfunded mandate. They key word is allows. The proposal requires schools to do nothing, just permits them to.”

## 5. 2003 Statements.

191. Myles Brand, the former President of the NCAA, has admitted that the unlawful agreement is not necessary to preserve amateurism, and that athletic scholarships covering the Cost of Attendance would be fully compatible with the legitimate purposes and objectives of the NCAA. In a letter to the editors of the *Denver Post*, then-President Brand wrote the following in 2003:

Ideally, the value of an athletically related scholarship would be increased to cover the full-cost of attendance, calculated at between \$2000 and \$3000 more per year than is currently provided. I favor this approach of providing the full cost of attendance. The Division I

conference, they spend about \$40,000 per year per student-athlete, for all costs in. The Southeastern Conference at the top spends roughly four times that, so (about \$150,000) per student. So if you’ve got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn’t going to make much of a difference.”

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown>.

<sup>17</sup> Quoted in Case4:09-cv-01967-CW Document999-2 Filed02/26/14 Page138 of 230.

membership, which is where the final decision will be made, will continue to address the issue over the next several months.<sup>18</sup>

192. Indeed, Brand reconfirmed his support for eliminating the grant-in-aid cap even after a predecessor lawsuit was filed.<sup>19</sup> Most recently, Brand stated that eliminating the grant-in-aid cap to allow scholarships covering the full Cost of Attendance “strikes me as a reasonable approach.”<sup>20</sup>

**6. The recent history of the latest stipend proposal.**

193. On October 27, 2011, the NCAA issued a press release stating the following:

The Division I Board of Directors continued the quick-action precedent set earlier this summer, adopting a package of proposals Thursday that toughen academic standards and provide increased academic and economic support to student-athletes.

“These changes demonstrate a remarkable resolve by presidents,” said NCAA President Mark Emmert. “They represent a return to and a focus on values that are at the core of what intercollegiate athletics are all about. They also represent a clear signal to the world about what we care about and what we stand for.”

The Board approved an implementation plan – which includes all football bowl games – that mandates a certain level of academic performance in order to participate in postseason competition. The eligibility requirement will begin phasing in with the 2012-13 academic year.

The Board also adopted legislation giving student-athletes who receive full athletics scholarships the opportunity to receive additional athletics aid up to the full cost of attendance or \$2,000, whichever is less.

The working group that made the recommendation told the board the \$2,000 figure is meaningful in addressing the miscellaneous expenses student-athletes now have. Institutions will not be required to offer the benefit, but conferences are encouraged to consider common application within their membership.

...

Student-athlete well-being improvements

<sup>18</sup> Myles Brand, “Welfare of Student-Athletes NCAA’s Top Priority,” Letter to the Editor, *Denver Post*, Aug. 17, 2003.

<sup>19</sup> See Mark Alesia, “Lawsuit: NCAA Should Pay ‘Full Cost,’” *Indianapolis Star*, Feb. 22, 2006, available at <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060222/SPORTS/602220460>.

<sup>20</sup> Mark Alesia, “Tourney Money Fuels Pay to Play Debate: Fewer than 1% of Athletes Help Make More than 90% of the NCAA’s Money,” *Indianapolis Star*, Apr. 1, 2006, available at <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?Date=20060401&Category=SPORTS&ArtNo=604010509&SectionCat=&Template=printart>.



1 The Board also adopted legislation that addresses the miscellaneous  
 2 costs of attending college. Student-athletes who receive full athletics  
 3 scholarships or get other school financial aid combined with athletics  
 4 aid to equal a full scholarship will have the opportunity to receive  
 additional athletics aid (or other institutional aid, including use of the  
 Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund) up to the institution's calculation of  
 full cost of attendance or \$2,000, whichever is less.

5 The figure will be adjusted according to the consumer price index, so  
 6 the presidents will not need to approve new figures when the cost of  
 living changes. The Board resolved to not revisit the \$2,000 amount  
 for three years.

7 The figure will be adjusted according to the consumer price index, so  
 8 the presidents will not need to approve new figures when the cost of  
 living changes. The Board resolved to not revisit the \$2,000 amount  
 for three years.

9  
 10 . . .

11 Penn State President Graham Spanier chaired the working group  
 established to examine student-athlete well-being issues.

12 “We understand the situation of our student-athletes. This isn’t about  
 13 paying student-athletes, but it is about being fair and recognizing that  
 in Division I it ought to be important to meet this need,” Spanier said.  
 14 “We all have lots of different choices to make, but we felt that these  
 proposals are right for our student-athletes.”

15 194. The NCAA further stated, in regards to an effective date, that the new rule would  
 16 apply to “[a]id agreements that take effect August 1, 2012 [awards can be executed before that  
 17 date].”

18 195. The NCAA’s own statement that these Cost of Attendance stipends do not constitute “pay” is  
 19 telling (“This isn’t about paying student-athletes”). This is because the NCAA knows its definition  
 20 of pay is entirely based on the arbitrary decisions of the cartel. If the NCAA allows any  
 21 compensation, by Rule (*e.g.*, Bylaw 12.02.7) it is instantly transformed from pay into allowable  
 22 financial aid. Bylaw 12.02.7 states that “Pay is the receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted  
 23 by the governing legislation of the Association for participation in athletics.” By this they make clear  
 24 that the price is fixed, the rules are arbitrary and that there is nothing other than the will of a  
 25 collusive body, and certainly no neutral weighing of the pro-competitive benefits versus the perils of  
 26 collusion, that makes the decision.  
 27  
 28

1           196. On December 8, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website “Frequently Asked  
2 Questions,” and stated this: “Does the same amount have to be offered every year of a multi-year  
3 award? Multi-year awards are not required to award the same amount each year. For example, a  
4 multi-year agreement can stipulate that a student-athlete will receive a certain amount in the  
5 freshman year and a different amount in the sophomore year.”

6           197. On December 8, 2011, the NCAA also stated this question and answer that the  
7 proposed change was subject to a cartel vote: “What if the legislation is overridden? Institutions  
8 were permitted to offer both the miscellaneous expense allowance and multi-year awards to recruits  
9 beginning with the early NLI signing period in November. Both rules are subject to override, but  
10 agreements signed prior to the last day for override requests (December 26) will be honored.”

11           198. The cartel did in fact choose to disallow even this small amount of market-base  
12 competition. On December 15, 2011, the NCAA’s news service reported that “[t]he new rule  
13 allowing Division I institutions to give some student-athletes an additional \$2,000 miscellaneous  
14 expense allowance has been suspended until the Board of Directors convenes in January. As of  
15 Dec. 15, enough schools – 125 – have called for an override of the legislation to prompt the  
16 automatic suspension under NCAA bylaws.” The NCAA’s release quoted NCAA President Mark  
17 Emmert as stating “Based on conversations I have had, I am confident that there remains a very high  
18 level of support for this permissive legislation to provide better support for our student athletes.”

19           199. The NCAA, however, made clear that the rule itself offered no chance of harm to the  
20 NCAA itself, and explicitly announced that “[a]ny allowances offered in writing during the  
21 November [2011] early signing period will be honored, according to Division I Vice President David  
22 Berst. Nearly 10,000 prospective Division I student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent for  
23 next year during the early signing period in November.” The NCAA continued that “[u]nless the  
24 Board takes some action to alter the proposal, prospective student-athletes who sign with schools  
25 during the upcoming signing periods in February and April will not have the option to receive the  
26 additional \$2,000 allowance.”

27           200. On January 14, 2012, the NCAA issued another press release, stating that “The  
28 Division I Board of Directors reaffirmed Saturday its support for a \$2,000 miscellaneous expense

1 allowance, but direct the Student-Athlete Well-Being working group to come back to the presidents  
2 [of NCAA member institutions] in April with recommendations for implantation.”

3 201. On November 3, 2012, *The Associated Press* reported that rather than being based on  
4 an assessment of the least restrictive alternative available, the decision was done solely to appease  
5 the cost-containment concerns of cartel members: “[t]he \$2,000 was a ‘compromise’ among [NCAA  
6 Division I Board of Directors] members, Emmert said. Some thought that the total amount should  
7 have been higher, but Emmert said the board wanted to settle on a reasonable amount it felt all  
8 schools would be able to afford. ‘It could’ve been higher, it could’ve been lower,’ he said. ‘But that  
9 was the number that everyone agreed was a good place to be.’ Emmert says the stipend bears no  
10 comparison to offering a salary to a student-athlete, essentially making him or her a paid employee  
11 of the university. ‘We’re still supporting them as students, not as somebody we’re paying to play a  
12 game,’ said Emmert, a former president at the University of Washington.”

13 202. In October 2013, the NCAA issued a press release referring to its Division I  
14 Leadership Council having convened a meeting on October 24, 2013, in Indianapolis. The NCAA  
15 stated that competitive balance was not impacted by a less restrictive version of its current price-  
16 fixing, stating: “Council members agree that the true ‘level playing field’ between schools cannot be  
17 achieved by making rules that limit the ability of schools with more resources to use them. Members  
18 stress that in some areas rules could become more permissive to allow schools who can afford to take  
19 advantage of the flexibility to do so.” The press release continued that “Many [Council members]  
20 believe that student-athlete benefits, including a change in the definition of a full athletics  
21 scholarship to include the full cost of attendance, could be an area of compromise.”

22 203. On October 29, 2013, the NCAA’s Division IA Athletics Directors Association made  
23 a presentation to the NCAA’s Board of Directors. *Yahoo! Sports* reported that “Morgan Burke and  
24 Mike Alden, athletic directors at Purdue and Missouri, respectively, made the presentation on behalf  
25 of the Division IA Athletic Directors Association and the National Association of College Directors  
26 of Athletics.” The article continued that “The athletic directors’ proposal is considered particularly  
27 influential because of their roles of running the on-campus operations of some 350 schools of all  
28 shapes and sizes.” The article continued that “[o]ne source believes the proposal made by the

1 athletic directors is, in general, similar to one made by the conference commissioners, easily the  
2 other most influential group in college athletics.”

3 204. *Yahoo! Sports* posted a copy of the proposal, which includes this statement:  
4 “Intercollegiate Athletics must ensure and improve student-athlete well-being which include the  
5 ability to increase opportunities for student-athletes to receive athletics’ [sic] assistance beyond what  
6 is currently available.”

7 205. On October 29, 2013, *USA Today* quoted Purdue athletics director Morgan Burke,  
8 who represented the IA Athletics Directors Association at the meeting, as stating that, with respect to  
9 the numerous proposed changes presented, “There will have to be some give and take as we do down  
10 the road, but the fact that all 351 (Division I) athletics directors are speaking out of the same hymnal,  
11 it’s the first time in my 20 years.” This representation that a clear meeting of the minds among  
12 employees of all 351 competitors in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market had been reached  
13 is a clear statement of the renewal of the collusive agreement.

14 206. NACDA’s website states, in an entry dated September 25, 2013, under the slogan,  
15 “351 Division I Programs – ONE VOICE” the following: “NACDA President Mike Alden, athletics  
16 director at the University of Missouri and D1A Athletic Directors’ Association President Morgan  
17 Burke, athletics director at Purdue University, are serving as national spokesmen for all 351  
18 Division I programs.” It continues that “The National Association of Collegiate Directors of  
19 Athletics (NACDA) and the 1A Athletic Directors’ Association, in addition to NACDA’s Affiliate  
20 Associations, the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Association and the Division I-AAA  
21 Athletics Directors Association (DI-AA ADA), are working as a cohesive unit in developing  
22 recommendations that will help improve the governance and operation of intercollegiate athletics.”

23 207. The website links to the transcript of a teleconference dated September 27, 2013,  
24 which contains the following exchanges (again, under the prominent slogan “351 Division I  
25 Programs – ONE VOICE”) explained that the competitors discussed prices and came to an explicit  
26 agreement that the current price fix was not necessary, but that actual competition would not be  
27 permitted by cartel rule:  
28

1 Q. Morgan, obviously the statement the other day kind of speaks for  
2 itself, but where does your group come down on potential cost-of-  
attendance stipends for student-athletes?

3 MORGAN BURKE: Well, I think that's a subject that's going to get a  
4 lot of debate, has gotten a lot of debate, as people have looked at  
5 miscellaneous expense allowance. We're committed to trying to make  
sure the resources that are needed for a quality student-athlete  
experience are there.

6 Certainly if you go back into the 1960s, there was such a thing called  
7 laundry money, incidental money given to the student-athletes. That  
8 went away in the mid '70s. I think you're going to see a question occur  
on that topic.

9 . . .

10 **Q. In the statement the other day, you addressed the integrity**  
11 **issue that needs to be handled effectively, enforcement. What are**  
**some of the recommendations that you're making beyond what is**  
**already being done at the NCAA level?**

12 MORGAN BURKE: I'm a big supporter for what the NCAA stands  
13 for. Again, we are the NCAA.

14 . . .

15 **Q. Mike, in the statement you put out the other day, you said, Pay-**  
16 **for-play is not part of the amateur setting, there's no place for**  
17 **that. You and the SEC have said before that you'd be for**  
**exploring stipends and things like that. How do the two opinions**  
**vibe and how do they play into each other?**

18 MIKE ALDEN: I appreciate that. You know, what I had said earlier  
19 on this call, but also is we don't talk about pay-for-play. Wherever  
20 that's come from, whoever has created that terminology, that hasn't  
been necessarily anything that we've either talked about at Mizzou or  
talked about as athletics directors or certainly from an SEC standpoint.

21 What we've talked about is exploring the opportunity for a full cost of  
22 attendance. I used the example a little bit earlier, I'm going to reiterate  
23 it. I'm using my son as an example. Jake is a freshman here at  
24 Purdue. When we came here as his parents this summer, they showed  
25 us what our tuition, fees, books, room and board would be. They said,  
That's not what it's going to cost for him to go to school at Purdue, it's  
going to be a little bit more. His full cost of attendance, as parents, you  
need to budget a little bit more because he's probably going to come  
home twice, he needs incidental expense money, laundry money,  
whatever it may be.

26 That's the area all of us are looking at to explore. How do we have an  
27 opportunity to really look at what term, and most schools term, not  
28 athletics, most schools of higher education term 'a full cost of  
attendance.'

**D. NCAA Conferences' Statements Regarding the Stipend Proposal**

**1. The Pac 12.**

208. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Pac 12 would make competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Pac 12's views of amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, on June 15, 2011, *The Denver Post* reported the following:

[T]he issue of athletes getting shortchanged by major-college football's billion-dollar business has pushed Scott to seek an increase in scholarship money for every varsity athlete on a Pac-12 campus.

"It's a question of priorities, and sometimes you have to prioritize what's right," Scott said. "I think this is an issue of principle. And we're going to advocate for it."

Scott broached the topic with Pac-12 athletic directors at their recent conference meetings. His pitch received mixed reviews. The athletic directors are ecstatic about getting about \$20 million a year in television revenue per school once the new TV contracts kick in, but many will need that money to soak up red ink.

Increasing scholarships for tuition that is rising rapidly on many campuses would put it right back.

"Morally, I think it's the right thing to do," Oregon State athletic director Bob De Carolis said. "But there are a lot of other issues and a lot of ways to get to it."

Scott presented hard data in Seattle. He said the shortfall between the amount of an athletic scholarship and actual living expenses – termed "cost of attendance" – is \$2,000 to \$4,000 per student per school year.

"Our concern is kids from underprivileged backgrounds who literally have trouble covering costs, have a meal, have a little spending money," Scott said. "That's a concern."

...

The move could provide an uneven playing field.

"I don't think there is an even playing field," Scott said. "There's not an even playing field in TV exposure. There's not an even playing field in coaches and coaches salaries. There's not an even playing field in stadiums."

...

1 “I think the kids need more money, period,” said Washington State  
2 football coach Paul Wulff. “They say they can work a job, but it’s  
unrealistic for what we ask these guys to do.”

3 Wulff said he advocates providing a stipend of about \$200 a month.

4 “The only reason I say that is to make sure they can eat,” he said. “In  
5 my opinion, I’d rather not give them any more money but have the  
6 ability to feed them two meals a day minimum every day. I don’t want  
to hear a kid say, ‘Coach, I don’t have enough money to eat.’ It harms  
their performance.”

7 It’s a long way from fruition, but the debate won’t go away. Scott will  
8 make sure it won’t.

9 “No one relishes the idea of increased funding,” Scott said. “By the  
10 same token, we are as a conference at a level in terms of resources  
coming and a conference that likes to stand for doing things the right  
way, that it’s the right thing.”

11 209. On January 6, 2013, the *Associated Press* reported that “The problem is scholarship  
12 rules have lagged behind the times, said Pac-12 Conference Commissioner Larry Scott, now in his  
13 fourth year in the job. His conference, like most of the major ones, supports a stipend. ‘The  
14 scholarship rules don’t allow you to cover the full cost of attendance,’ he said. ‘Doesn’t cover things  
15 like miscellaneous meals, trips home, clothes and other things. For me there has been a gap. This  
16 does not cross the philosophical Rubicon of paying players.”

17 210. On June 2, 2013, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that “Scott address a number of  
18 topics Monday during a conference call with reporters following last weekend’s summer meetings in  
19 Park City, Utah.” The article continued that “[t]he full cost of attendance issue is not going away.  
20 Several major conferences, including the Southeastern [SEC] and Pac-12, favor a plan that will use  
21 increased television money to compensate their athletes with an additional scholarship stipend ...  
22 ‘I’d like to think it could happen under the current structure,’ Scott said of the stipend. ‘This is  
23 clearly the right thing.’”

24 211. On July 25, 2013, *Sports Illustrated’s* SI.com reported that “[t]he big five conferences  
25 [Pac-12, SEC, Atlantic Coast Conference, Big 12, and Big Ten] want to be able to give the stipend to  
26 all scholarship athletes.” The article quotes Pac 12 Commissioner Larry Scott as stating that,  
27 “[s]chools that have resources and want to be able to do more for student-athletes are frustrated,  
28 concerned that we’re being held back from doing more for the student-athletes in terms of the



1 stipend.” With respect to the smaller NCAA member schools that had blocked implementation of  
2 the stipend, he stated that “[t]he idea that there is an even playing field in terms for resources is a  
3 fanciful and quaint notion.” The article continued that “Scott compared the stipend being stymied to  
4 the delays in bringing instant replay to college football in the 2000s.” The article quoted  
5 Commissioner Scott as stating that “[i]nstant replay took longer than it needed to get into college  
6 football because not everyone could do it. There are still some schools out there whose conferences  
7 can’t afford instant replay. It doesn’t strike me that the world’s fallen in or that it’s created some  
8 crisis just because everyone can’t have instant reply.”

9       212. On July 27, 2013, the *Denver Post* reported the following regarding Pac 12  
10 Conference Commissioner Larry Scott’s statements at the Pac 12’s preview held at Sony Studios, in  
11 Culver City, California: “Scott is fully behind the cost-of-attendance stipend most of the smaller  
12 schools can’t afford. A figure of \$2,000 per scholarship athlete for a school year has been  
13 mentioned. It remains in the discussion stages. ‘This must be addressed,’ Scott said.” The article  
14 continued that “[t]he major conferences’ bigger beef is smaller schools blocking legislation favored  
15 by the minority that makes most of the money. ‘It’s time to acknowledge that one size does not fit  
16 all and that we need more flexibility in the system,’ Scott said. ‘We must design a structure that  
17 allows for appropriate differences based on priorities and resources throughout the NCAA.’”

18       213. On November 24, 2013, *The New York Times* quoted Mr. Scott as stating that  
19 “[t]here’s a strong feeling we need to loosen up the reins of what the high-resource conferences can  
20 do for student athletes.”

21       **2. The Southeastern Conference.**

22       214. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Southeastern Conference would make  
23 competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of  
24 Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Southeastern Conference’s views of  
25 amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, the  
26 *Associated Press*, in an article dated January 6, 2013, reported Commissioner Slive as stating with  
27 respect to the proposed \$2,000 stipend, “It doesn’t strike me as drastic by definition. There is a fixed  
28 definition for a scholarship. There’s no reason why it shouldn’t be reviewed.” Commissioner Slive

1 continued that “I do understand the economics, that it might be more difficult for some than others,  
2 but for those that can do it, it’s the right thing to do and that ought to be the guiding factor.”

3 215. The Southeastern Conference’s Commissioner Mike Slive stated the following in an  
4 interview on April 29, 2013, with respect to the NCAA’s failure to allow a \$2,000 stipend: “It’s a  
5 disappointment that it’s not taken care of yet. We truly believe that we ought to do more for our  
6 student-athletes than just the room, board, books and tuition. We’re hopeful that we can continue to  
7 make that work ... I think it’s fair to say it’s an idea that’s not going to go away.”

8 216. An *Associated Press* article dated January 6, 2013, quoted Alabama football coach  
9 Nick Saban as follows:

10 A lot of the young people that we have, that play college football, the  
11 demographics that they come from, they don’t have a lot and I think  
12 we should try to create a situation where their quality of life, while  
they’re getting an education, might be a little better.

13 I feel that the athletes should share in some of this to some degree. I  
14 don’t really have an opinion on how that should be done. There’s a lot  
15 of other people who probably have a lot more experience in figuring  
16 that one out, but I do think we should try to enhance the quality of life  
for all student-athletes.

I believe the leadership in the NCAA finally sort of acknowledges that  
so that’s probably a big step in that direction.

17 217. A *USA Today* article, from that same day, further quoted Mr. Saban as stating that “I  
18 don’t think there’s any question about the fact that something ... I do think that something should be  
19 done to enhance the quality of life of student-athletes that are on scholarship because in our sport  
20 especially, there is socioeconomic groups that struggle a little bit, even with a scholarship, because  
21 there is a cost associate with going to college that is beyond room, board, tuition in books.” The  
22 article further stated that “Saban pointed to the windfalls provided by conference TV networks and  
23 the coming college football playoff as a compelling reason for the discussion. ‘I think especially  
24 where we’ve sort of gotten to from a business perspective relative to the financial end of things that  
25 there isn’t really any good reason that the student-athletes who create that should not share in that to  
26 some degree.’”

1           218. When asked what he would change with the NCAA if he had the power to do so,  
2 Mr. Calipari stated that “[t]here would be a stipend, probably in the area of \$4,000 to \$5,000, and  
3 I’m talking men and women, all the athletes.”

4           219. On July 16, 2013, ESPN.com, in an article titled “Steve Spurrier stumps for stipends,”  
5 reported that “[University of] South Carolina [football] coach Steve Spurrier gave a peek behind the  
6 curtain of the annual Southeastern Conference coaches meetings Tuesday, revealing that the league’s  
7 coaches voted unanimously that every student-athlete in basketball and football should be given a  
8 stipend affording their parents travel expenses to and from games.” The article continued that “[t]he  
9 league’s elder statesman among football coaches said it is only right that those players who generate  
10 the school so much money should be given what would amount to a minor benefit.” The article  
11 quoted Mr. Spurrier as stating:

12                   We believe those two sports, the income producers, those players –  
13                   most of them come from lower-income families – that we should  
14                   provide some expense money so their parents can go to the games –  
15                   lodging, travel, meals, what have you,” Spurrier said. “We’re only  
16                   talking about in football like \$300 a game, basketball would be a little  
17                   less, where the players in the course of the year have \$3,600-\$3,900,  
18                   depending on how many games you play, just to have a little bit of  
19                   pocket money and their parents can have money to come to games.

20           220. The article continued that “Spurrier has pushed for stipends for the past two years,  
21 and reiterated Tuesday that all the SEC football and basketball coaches agreed their players deserved  
22 what would amount to pocket change compared to the money generated from ticket sales and  
23 television revenue.” The article continued that “Spurrier said it wasn’t “pay-for-play,” but rather  
24 expense money. In fact, Spurrier said the coaches would pay for the expenses out of pocket, if need  
25 be.”

26           221. The connection between coach earnings and the compensation of revenue-producing  
27 athletes was not lost on University of South Carolina football coach Steve Spurrier (Neuharth,  
28 June 9, 2011) who developed a proposal to provide a stipend to players on a per game basis that  
garnered support from Alabama’s Nick Saban, Florida’s Will Muschamp, LSU’s Les Miles,  
Mississippi’s Houston Nutt, Mississippi State’s Dan Mullen and Tennessee’s Derek Dooley. In  
explaining the rationale for the proposal, Spurrier said, “A bunch of us coaches felt so strongly about

1 it that we would be willing to pay it – 70 guys, 300 bucks a game,” Spurrier said. “That’s only  
 2 \$21,000 a game. I doubt it will get passed, but as coaches in the SEC, we make all the money – as  
 3 do universities, television – and we need to get more to our players” (Long, June 1, 2011). Spurrier  
 4 went on to say that “People don’t realize that most football players come from underprivileged  
 5 homes. My plan was meant to show that I believe our players deserve more expense money to be  
 6 more like the average college student.”

### 7 **3. The Big Ten.**

8 222. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Big Ten would make competitive offers  
 9 in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the  
 10 conference did not see any harm to the Big Ten’s views of amateurism or competitive balance from  
 11 making such offers in that market, although the Big Ten has also indicated at times it intends to do so  
 12 (absent an injunction from this Court) only subject to an anti-competitive agreement with its  
 13 competitors. For example, on May 19, 2011, ESPN.com reported:

14 Big Ten officials discussed a proposal that would pay athletes to help  
 15 cover living expenses on top of their scholarships during the league’s  
 spring meetings this week.

16 The idea, which is backed by current NCAA president Mark Emmert  
 17 and was favored by late NCAA president Myles Brand, is to bridge the  
 18 gap between what athletic scholarships pay and other expenses like  
 transportation and clothing. That difference has been estimated at  
 between \$2,000 to \$5,000 per player.

19 Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany said league athletic directors and  
 20 officials have seriously discussed whether they should use some of  
 their growing TV revenue to pay athletes more.

21 “Forty years ago, you had a scholarship plus \$15 a month laundry  
 22 money,” Delany said. “Today, you have the same scholarship, but not  
 with the \$15 laundry money.

23 “How do we get back more toward the collegiate model and a  
 24 regulatory system that is based more on student-athlete welfare than it  
 25 is on a level playing field, where everything is about a cost issue and  
 whether or not everybody can afford to do everything everybody else  
 can do?” Delany asked.

26 Delany stressed that the Big Ten was merely at the discussion stage,  
 27 but he added the league is interested in talking to other conferences to  
 28 see if they also favor such a plan. He acknowledged many schools and  
 conferences across the country couldn’t afford to cover those

1 additional expenses, which could run about \$300,000 a year just for  
2 football and men's basketball players alone.

3 But some Big Ten officials say if they can help out their athletes, then  
4 the concept of using the same rules for all teams should be abandoned.  
Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said the stakes are simply  
higher for schools like his than for those in the MAC or Sun Belt.

5 "The reality is, if there's cost of attendance and you can't afford it,  
6 don't do it," Smith said. "The teams you're trying to beat can't do it  
either. Don't do it because Ohio State's doing it. That's one of the  
7 things schools at that level get trapped into thinking."

8 223. On July 24, 2013, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported Commissioner Delany as stating  
9 that "a miscellaneous expense needs to be implemented, and it needs to be implemented in a way that  
10 allows the student to engage in athletics and also to receive support from the institution above the  
11 scholarship, up to the cost of education."

12 224. On August 7, 2013, *USA Today* reported Commissioner Delany as stating "[m]y line  
13 is cost of attendance, and that's as far as I'm willing to do. After cost of attendance, then I think  
14 you're into another game, pay for play, and I'm personally not in favor of it."

15 225. On September 26, 2013, *USA Today* reported that Commissioner Delany stressed the  
16 need to "do everything we should do to define a fair package that fits for the 21st Century." The  
17 article continued that Delaney's "preferred model would include the ability for those conferences to  
18 have the autonomy to legislate their own rules without – or with much less regard for – the concept  
19 of an artificially 'level playing field' for schools with fewer resources. The wealthier schools would  
20 be able to provide more benefits to athletes, such as stipends to help cover full cost of attendance and  
21 miscellaneous expenses. Delany also suggested as examples expanded educational opportunities and  
22 allowing schools to pay expenses of players' parents on road trips. 'There are things we can do to  
23 prioritize their experience,' he said. 'But I feel as strongly as I did 20 years ago it's not pay-for-  
24 play.'"

25 226. Tom Osbourne, the then Athletic Director at the University of Nebraska in 2012, and  
26 formerly a football coach there for 25 years, stated this in an interview with the *Associated Press*  
27 published on December 25, 2012, and presently posted by the NCAA on its website:

28 I would hope student-athletes can be put somewhere at the forefront of  
the agenda. I find it odd that you see the escalation of dollars yet there

seems to be a lot of controversy over providing student-athletes with a \$2,000 stipend. It doesn't quite compute. It seems to me that the athletic scholarship should be cost of attendance, not just room, board, books, tuition and fees ...

227. SI.com, in an article dated November 11, 2013, discussed Nebraska's Chancellor Harvey Perlman, "who is the Big Ten's [Conference] representative on NCAA reform," and quote Perlman as stating that "[t]he fact is that with all this revenue that we have, we can spend it on anything we want under current NCAA regulations, except to benefit student-athletes." He continued that "That's where we're regulated and prevented from doing things. I'm not saying we're going to pay them. None of us would agree to that. But there are a variety of areas to have opportunities among the five to consider the rules we want to live with."

#### **4. The Big 12.**

228. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Big 12 would make competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Big 12's views of amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, on April 17, 2013, Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby stated the following in a television interview on the Longhorn Network:

"I served on the NCAA's Financial Aid and Amateurism Committee 30 years ago, and we came up with the revolutionary idea that it should be room, board, book, tuition and fees and \$2,000 a year, so not much has changed over the last decades. But, I really think we all understand that it costs more than room, board, books and tuition and fees to go to college, so I could certainly advocate for some measure of incremental payment to student-athletes .... if were to come up with a plan, that especially on a need basis, would put some additional money in the hands of student-athletes, and when I say student-athletes, I don't just mean football player or basketball players. I think if you apply any form of the labor theory of value, swimmers work just as hard as the basketball players, the track athletes work just as hard as the football players do, I think we have to do it for all student athletes, men and women, on a need basis, and if it goes above \$2,000 per year per student athlete, so be it, I think it's a great thing to do for the young people that populate our programs, they all work hard, and they all deserve the consideration."

On June 2, 2011, the Associated Press reported the following statement from University of Texas' Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds in regards to increasing the value of athletic scholarships to the cost of attendance: "We're for it. It's a positive step and I think doing something for student-athletes is a positive thing."

On June 27, 2011, the *Dallas Morning News* reported that Bill Byrne, then the Athletic Director of Texas A&M, stated that “I’ve been in favor of total cost of attendance forever, whether I was working at a have or have not [school]. So many student-athletes come from disadvantaged backgrounds and have to pay their way to school or laundry or the movies. If you really care about the welfare of student-athletes, dig a little deeper.”

## **5. The Atlantic Coast Conference.**

229. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Atlantic Coast Conference would make competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Atlantic Coast Conference’s views of amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, on July 21, 2013, ESPN.com reported that Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swofford stated the following: “I am for looking very diligently at a way to enhance the scholarship itself, whether it’s need based, whether it’s based on a simple stipend that once existed or some other way to approach it, whether it’s going to the full cost of attendance.” On October 16, 2013, Durham, North Carolina’s *The Herald-Sun* reported Commissioner Swofford as stating that “I’m for enhancing fundamentally the concept of the athletic grant made that we have now” and that “we can’t live with our heads stuck in the sand.”

## **E. Football Bowl Subdivision Football Players Seek the Ability to Compete without Anti-competitive Restraint in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market**

230. A January 6, 2013, *Associated Press* article reported the following regarding the proposed stipend:

“It kind of goes both ways,” said Alabama defensive back Vinnie Sunseri, whose father, Sal, is a college football coach and former NFL player. “A lot of people would say we don’t deserve it because we already get enough as college kids that just happen to play a sport. A lot of people don’t realize all the work that goes into all the stuff that we have to do throughout the day.

“I have no time during the day. I wake up at 6 a.m., lift, go to class, right after class you come back up to the football complex to watch film and get ready for practice. By the time you get out, you’ve got to go to study hall. By the time you get out of study hall, it’s basically bed time. It is really like a full-time job.”

Alabama long-snapper Carson Tinker made the team as a non-scholarship walk-on, but earned a scholarship this season.



1 “I’m very thankful for my scholarship,” Tinker said. “All of us have  
2 bills. All of us have expenses, just like every other student. I don’t  
3 live with football players. I live with two of my good friends. While  
I’m at practice every day, they have a job. They’re able to pay their  
bills, buy food, stuff like that.”

4 231. In an article dated September 24, 2013, the writer Patrick Hruby reported:

5 Speaking of bad situations, Foster says in “Schooled” that his athletic  
6 scholarship didn’t always leave him with enough money to eat and pay  
7 rent, and that a coach once bought him and his teammates “like, 50  
8 tacos for like four or five of us. Which is an NCAA violation.” Foster  
9 also claimed he took under-the-table payments during his senior year.  
10 Some accused him of lying. *Don’t college athletes get lavish training  
tables? No way those guys go hungry.* Yet according to a recent study  
by Drexel University professor Ellen Staurowsky, the average  
difference between scholarship value and the full cost of attending  
school for Football Bowl Subdivision players in 2011-2012 was  
\$3,285.

11 Former Marshall University quarterback Brian Anderson says he  
12 experienced that gap, particularly when he lived off-campus his junior  
13 and senior years. His scholarship provided roughly \$900 a month  
14 during the school year for food and rent, and less during summer  
months. “So you’re spending \$400 bucks on rent, and the rest is for  
food, gas, and things like clothes. For some kids, that isn’t enough. I  
was lucky. I had parents who could provide for me.”

15 And what about training tables?

16 “As far as that being provided, it was always provided after practice if  
17 we got out after the cafeteria was closed,” says Anderson. “But there  
18 were a lot of times we didn’t know if we were going to get paid for a  
19 weekend when the lunch room wasn’t open or something. If we got  
that money, we were surprised and excited. If we didn’t, it was what it  
was. What the NCAA said the school could pay us. We weren’t going  
to speak out about it.”

20 232. On July 26, 2013, *Sports Illustrated’s* SI.com reported: “During Friday’s Pac-12  
21 media day, Stanford offensive lineman David Yankey fielded a question about stipends. He  
22 responded by saying: “I definitely think the extra money would help a lot. A full scholarship  
23 doesn’t cover everything, as far as traveling home to see your parents, especially when you go across  
24 the county to a place like Stanford, personally being from Georgia. That could help a lot of players.”

#### 25 **F. Other Statements Supporting the Stipend Proposal**

26 233. On June 28, 2007, basketball legend Oscar Robertson, in an Op-Ed piece in *The New*  
27 *York Times*, wrote that “College Athletes should also receive a modest stipend and more realistic  
28 expense money. If athletes have to struggle to get by, of course they will want to turn pro as soon as

possible. They're also more likely to accept money from agents who want to sign them, although agents aren't the only people who slip money to college athletes. (Signing with an agent makes players ineligible for the college game, whether or not money has changed hands – but coaches are allowed to collect fees for referring agents to players!).”

234. On March 29, 2013, *The New York Times* reported that “Gary Williams, who has been a [men’s basketball] head coach at multiple colleges, most notably at the University of Maryland, said ‘I’d be the first one to say players should get a stipend. At a big-time program, you’re generating not just the dollars you bring in but the interest of your alumni that will give money to the school, not just to the athletic department. And the applications increase, which is really important to the school.’” Mr. Williams also served as head coach at Ohio State University, Boston College, and American University. In 2002, he coached the University of Maryland to the national championship. He retired from coaching after the 2010-11 season, and now serves as college basketball analyst for the Big Ten Network, owned by powerful NCAA member the Big Ten Conference.

**G. NCAA Members Statements against the Stipend Proposal Show that Opposition is Not Based on Valid Antitrust Defenses, but Rather Serve Primarily as Cost-Cutting Efforts or as Means of substituting the Judgment of the Cartel for that of the Market**

235. In vigorously opposing the stipend rule, NCAA member institutions laid bare their anti-competitive motivations. Below are actual comments made by NCAA member institutions to the NCAA in conjunction with the successful effort by NCAA member institutions to repeal the stipend rule, demonstrating the lack of pro-competitive motives for maintaining the current level of fixed prices. These invalid justifications include a desire to lower costs, a desire to restrict the choices of athletes in the labor market, or a simple aversion to seeing its labor force with money to spend.<sup>21</sup>

**American University:**

“[O]ur institution does not have the resources to cover the additional cost, so this proposal would put us at a disadvantage.”

<sup>21</sup> [http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2011/writers/andy\\_staples/12/20/ncaa-student-athletes/index.html?eref=sihp&sct=hp\\_t11\\_a2](http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2011/writers/andy_staples/12/20/ncaa-student-athletes/index.html?eref=sihp&sct=hp_t11_a2).

**Boise State University:**

“It creates a recruiting advantage for those that can afford it and puts those that can’t at a disadvantage.”

“That tough decision [where to attend college] becomes more complicated when the student and his/her family have to factor in what school ‘offers the best deal’ versus where they may want to attend if all offers were for one year without the enticement of \$2,000.”

**Boston University:**

It would be “compelled to reallocate financial aid in this direction in order to be competitive in recruitment.”

**East Tennessee State University:**

“While the legislation is permissive as written, it is mandatory in its practical application. Some conferences and institutions have already mandated the MEA for all or selected sports; those without a conference or institutional mandate must respond in kind to avoid a substantial recruiting disadvantage.”

Schools “with larger budgets ... able to make up the financial difference between their current athletic equivalency and their current overall equivalency will be able to award more scholarship dollars to a greater number of student-athletes.”

**Gardner-Webb University:**

Citing “cost concerns.”

**Idaho State University:**

“The consequences of not being able to provide this additional money will put our institutions at a recruiting and competitive disadvantage. Prospective student-athletes and their parents are likely to ask about the \$2,000 being included in a financial aid award. When our coaches state that they can not provide the additional funds, it will be less likely that the prospective student-athlete commits to our institution if they are offered the money elsewhere.”

**Indiana State University:**

“The budgetary impact upon FCS schools such as our institution ... seem to have gone completely unaddressed by the powers that be. I am sure this is a great thing for the mid to upper-tier BCS schools, but the impact and possible recruiting disadvantage it imposes on the rest of us is absolutely unacceptable.”

**Lafayette College:**

“While this is interpreted as permissive legislation, this will become a mandatory requirement for providing full scholarship [sic] at any level

1 in Division I. Only few [sic] can actually afford the implications of  
2 this bylaw to the fullest extent.”

3 **Marshall University:**

4 “The institution is not in a position to fund the additional costs  
5 associated with a miscellaneous expense. Many institutions are likely  
6 to be in the same position which would create a competitive advantage  
7 for those institutions who had large budgets.”

8 **Miami University (Ohio):**

9 Referencing “the question of where to find the additional revenue to  
10 pay for this ‘allowance’ . . .”

11 **Rutgers:**

12 Referencing “the lopsided effect it will have on certain institutions  
13 without the financial resources to provide this MEA which then  
14 cascades into a competitive effect in recruiting and retention.”

15 **Santa Clara University:**

16 “The intent of the proposal is admirable, but the strain of appropriating  
17 additional funds for full scholarship student-athletes makes the struggle  
18 to fund scholarships across all sports that much more difficult.”

19 **St. Francis College (New York):**

20 “When combined with the proposal to allow multi-year grants-in-aid,  
21 this will bring forth the sort of negotiations (potentially involving third  
22 parties) as prospective student-athletes shop themselves around for the  
23 best deal (in terms of length and compensation).”

24 **Tennessee Technological University (“Tennessee Tech”):**

25 The new rule “will lead to unlevel playing fields as some institutions  
26 will bow to pressure; or in some cases have assets that will allow  
27 student-athletes across the board to receive the other countable aid in  
28 order to be more competitive athletically.”

I want to share a very supportive and knowledgeable university  
professor’s view of this change in legislation He writes ... “[i]t seems  
most dubious to give some student athletes what amounts to ‘tattoo  
money’ at a time when far too many others are unable to put food on  
the table, and the institutions themselves are almost all facing choices  
among various undesirable options.”

**University of Maryland, Baltimore County:**

“Trying to legislate cost saving [sic] in other areas, while adding this  
potential hugh [sic] expense to institutions.”

**University of North Carolina, Asheville:**

“Increased financial burdens during tough economic times – Many schools have not raised faculty salaries in 2 to 4 years ... Though framed as ‘permissive’ legislation, the \$2,000 extra stipend becomes mandatory as institutions recruit to compete with their peers – The \$2,000 stipend is only a beginning and will surely increase over time.”

**University of North Florida:**

“Schools with large financial aid funding and the right amount of creativity will find ways in which they no longer have to worry about scholarship limits.”

**University of South Carolina Upstate:**

“Although this legislation has been described as permissive, in order to remain competitive in recruiting this will become mandatory for any institution desiring to compete with its peers.”

**University of Tennessee at Martin:**

“It’s not realistic to maintain that this legislation is permissive and not acknowledge the costs it will create because of competitive equity.”

“There’s another aspect of the ‘cost of attendance’ legislation that baffles me. Let us all remember that there’s nothing that says we ‘must’ give a student-athlete a scholarship **and** allow him or her to keep full Pell Grant ... But most of us do, at least in our high profile sports, because our competition does.” (Emphasis in original.)

“Another reason for overriding this legislation should be the needed to at least eliminate its application to FCS football. The football championship division exists because there are about 120 Division I institutions that sponsor football programs and choose to spend less on scholarships, coaching staffs, etc. than the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision members. Taking a stand against the Cost of Attendance, at least for FCS football, would be consistent with that philosophy.”

“I hope our presidents of institutions with over 25% of their athletic budgets funded by allocated resources will resolve to do all they can to derail this legislation before the next national signing date [for recruits] in February, especially OVC football.”

“Unlike coaches [sic] salaries, the market does not demand cost of attendance stipends. The athletes will play their sports without them.”

**University of Texas, Pan American:**

“With so many budget cuts and the decrease in funding across college campuses this additional \$2000 will only hurt those institutions who are already struggling to fully fund their programs.”

**Winthrop University:**

“The labeling this legislation as ‘permissive’ is a misnomer, considering all ‘permissive’ legislation leads to required legislation to compete with peers, particularly in recruiting ... This legislation will not stop with \$2,000/yr, and will likely increase in the future, which would lead to even more budgetary constraints.”

**Wright State University:**

The proposed rule “provides an unfair disadvantage to smaller institutions that will struggle to find the funds necessary to provide the additional \$2,000 to student-athletes.”

236. The NCAA, in a press release on December 2011 regarding the override vote that suspended the new rule, made clear the decision was made to hold down cartel members’ costs, stating that “[o]ther schools who objected to the legislation stated they can’t afford the additional expense but feel it will be necessary to find the money to pay for it in order to compete for recruits.”

237. As the above comments demonstrate, the primary motivation of NCAA institutions in repealing the stipend rule was to reduce price competition thereby holding down their labor costs. Moreover, many explicitly saw that the current cap had the effect of denying their athletes choice among a variety of financial aid packages. That is, as Boise State put it: “That tough decision [where to attend college] becomes more complicated when the student and his/her family have to factor in what school ‘offers the best deal’ versus where they may want to attend if all offers were for one year without the enticement of \$2,000,” but of course that is no different than price-fixers of consumer products arguing that by fixing prices, they make it easier for consumers to choose the car, or laundry soap, or milk products than best fits their families’ needs, independent of price.

**H. Major College Football Is a Highly Commercialized Business, not a Charitable Endeavor**

238. The money generated by the college sports enterprise, presided over and facilitated by the NCAA, is staggering. Some prominent examples, all relating to television contracts, are detailed herein.

239. The *Wall Street Journal* reported on January 6, 2012,<sup>22</sup> that at least 14% of the total revenue of all of Louisiana State University (“LSU”) comes just from football, and quoted LSU chancellor Mike Martin saying

the school’s 14% mark may actually understate the football team’s financial impact. It doesn’t capture, for instance, academic donations from alumni that were largely inspired by a connection to the football team. ‘I’ve never been at a place where people love it as passionately as the people at LSU,’ said Martin, who also has worked at universities in the Big Ten and Pac-12 conferences. ‘I do believe that donors and others put their money where their mouth is.’

240. *Sports Illustrated*, in its November 5, 2012 issue, reported that NCAA President Mark Emmert, when he previously was President of NCAA Division I member Louisiana State University, “said that success in football was ‘essential for the success of Louisiana State University.’” The article continued that Emmert “is part of a system – as shown by the Pac-12’s new \$4.3 *billion* TV contract for football – that grows richer and less controllable by the day. ‘We have met the enemy, said former NCAA president Gene Corrigan last month, ‘and he is us.’” The article continued that “[t]he NCAA and television ‘have made college football just one notch below professional football,’ said [State of Pennsylvania Governor Tom] Corbett. ‘It’s the moneymaker. So if anybody has enhanced the importance of football to the potential of being more important than education, the NCAA is equally involved.’”

241. Flush with the proceeds from its television contracts, in June 2012, the NCAA completed the expansion of its headquarters in Indianapolis, at a cost of \$47 million.

242. With respect to the college football playoff system, soon to be implemented, *The New York Times* reported that “[i]n a 12-year, \$7.3 billion deal, ESPN gained the rights to the college football playoff, which begins after the 2014 regular season.”

243. In March 2013, ESPN.com published the below information regarding the major NCAA conference’s television deals.<sup>23</sup> It explains that “First-tier rights are for football and/or

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<sup>22</sup>

[http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524?mg=reno64-  
wsj&url=http%3A%2F%2Fonline.wsj.com%2Farticle%2FSB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524.html](http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524?mg=reno64-wsj&url=http%3A%2F%2Fonline.wsj.com%2Farticle%2FSB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524.html).



basketball games broadcast nationally. Second-tier rights are for football and/or basketball games not selected by the first-tier rights holder. Third-tier rights are any games not selected by the first- or second-tier rights holders and rights for all sports other than football and basketball and can include digital rights. These rights are often sold on a per-school basis (not negotiated by the conference as a whole) and often go to regional networks (Comcast Sports Southeast, Raycom, or SportsNet New York, for example). They can also be reserved for networks like the Big Ten Network and the Longhorn Network.” The information is as follows:

<b>NCAA CONFERENCE NAME</b>	<b>TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION</b>	<b>DOLLAR AMOUNT</b>
<b>BIG 12</b>	First and second-tier rights, ESPN/FOX, 13 years through 2024-25:	<b>\$2.6 Billion</b>
	Per-year average:	<b>\$200 Million</b>
	Per-school, per-year average:	<b>\$20 Million</b>
<b>PAC 12</b>	First and second-tier rights, ESPN/FOX, 12 years through 2023-24:	<b>\$3 Billion</b>
	Per-year average:	<b>\$250 Million</b>
	Per-school, per-year average:	<b>\$20.8 Million</b>

<sup>23</sup> [http://espn.go.com/blog/playbook/dollars/post/\\_/id/3163/a-comparison-conference-television-deals](http://espn.go.com/blog/playbook/dollars/post/_/id/3163/a-comparison-conference-television-deals) (last visited Nov. 8, 2013).

NCAA CONFERENCE NAME	TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
<b>Southeastern Conference</b>	First-tier rights, CBS, 15 years through 2023-24 (negotiations ongoing):	<b>\$825 Million</b>
	Second-tier rights, ESPN, 15 years through 2023-24 (negotiations ongoing):	<b>\$2.25 Million</b>
	Per-year average (negotiations ongoing):	<b>\$205 Million</b>
	Per-school, per-year average: (negotiations ongoing):	<b>\$14.6 Million</b>
<b>BIG TEN</b>	First-tier rights, ESPN, 10 years through 2016-17:	<b>\$1 Billion</b>
	Second-tier rights, Big Ten Network, 25 years through 2031-32:	<b>\$2.8 Billion</b>
	Select basketball rights: (minimum of 24 games, men's tournament semifinal and championship games), CBS, six years through 2016-17:	<b>\$72 Million</b>
	Football championship game, FOX, six years through 2016:	<b>\$145 Million</b>
	Per-year average:	<b>\$248.2 Million</b>
<b>Atlantic Coast Conference</b>	First, second and third-tier rights, ESPN, 15 years through 2026-27:	<b>\$3.6 Billion</b>
	Per-year average:	<b>\$240 Million</b>
	Per-school, per-year average:	<b>\$17.1 Million</b>

NCAA CONFERENCE NAME	TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
<b>FORMER BIG EAST</b>	First-tier rights: ESPN, seven years for basketball (2013-2020); six years for football (2014-2020):	<b>\$126 Million</b>
	Second-tier rights: Basketball, BS, six years through 2012-13 (negotiations ongoing)	<b>\$54 Million</b>

244. Among the many beneficiaries of the largest of the television networks are coaches. For example, on November 6, 2013, *USA Today* reported on the results of its exhaustive study of the compensation packages for 126 major-college football head coaches. It reported that “[t]he average compensation package for major-college coaches is \$1.81 million, a rise of about \$170,000, or 10%, since last season – and more than 90% since 2006 ... At this rate, coaches’ compensation would more than double in less than a decade.” Accompanying the article is a database with details on each head coach (all figures here are guaranteed compensation, prior to potential bonus compensation, which is also detailed). For example, Alabama’s Nick Saban will earn \$5,545,852; Texas’ Mack Brown will earn \$5,453,750, and Arkansas’ Bret Bielman will earn \$5,158,863. Another five coaches will earn more than \$4 million. Another nine coaches will earn more than \$3 million. Another 33 will earn more than \$2 million.

245. Indeed, as astounding as these figures are, the off-season following the 2013-14 football season resulted in yet more escalation, with Alabama’s Nick Saban reportedly receiving a raise to \$7 million. That \$1.5 million raise by itself would amount to approximately \$17,000 per scholarship football player on Mr. Saban’s roster.

246. The compensation for assistant football coaches is similarly notable, particularly because under NCAA rules each team may have nine assistant coaches.<sup>24</sup> *USA Today* reported that “[t]he average major-college football assistant coach now earns roughly \$200,000, a USA TODAY

<sup>24</sup> See NCAA Bylaw 11.7.2 (“Bowl Subdivision Football. [FBS] There shall be a limit of one head coach, nine assistant coaches and four graduate assistant coaches who may be employed by an institution in bowl subdivision football.”). Bylaw 11.7.2.1.1 (“Exceptions to Number Limits”) goes on to further allow for a category of “weight (strength and conditioning) coach” that does not count against the limits above, and then further states that “[n]ot more than five weight or strength coaches are permitted to work with a football program in any capacity ...”

1 Sports analysis finds. That means NCAA Bowl Subdivision assistant coaches joined their bosses in  
2 seeing their compensation for the 2012 season increase by more than 10% over last season. Head  
3 coaches' pay went up a little faster than assistants' in the past year. But since USA TODAY Sports  
4 began surveying assistant coaches' compensation in 2009, assistants are making about 29% more and  
5 head coaches about 21% more." The article continued that "Southern California defensive  
6 coordinator Monte Kiffin leads the new assistant coach survey at more than \$1.5 million, but that is  
7 what he received during the 2010 calendar year, which is the most recent period for which private  
8 school data are available."

9         247. The article continued that "Kiffin has said he will depart USC after this season. That  
10 likely will make Clemson offensive coordinator Chad Morris the nation's highest paid assistant. He  
11 is second to Kiffin and tops among public-school assistants at \$1.3 million." The article continued  
12 that "Morris is making more than half of the Football Bowl Subdivision head coaches this season.  
13 He also is making more than 41 entire assistant-coaching staffs." The article continued that "The  
14 next four highest-paid assistants are defensive coordinators from Southeastern Conference schools:  
15 Alabama's Kirby Smart (\$950,000), LSU's John Chavis (\$911,250), Auburn's Brian VanGorder  
16 (\$875,000) and Georgia's Todd Grantham (\$825,000)." The article continued that "Clemson's  
17 assistants – at a combined total of more than \$4.2 million, including outside income – are the  
18 highest-paid group among the 102 public schools for which USA TODAY Sports could obtain 2012  
19 pay information for at least eight of the nine assistants generally allowed by NCAA rules."

20         248. LSU's assistants also are collecting more than \$4 million. Seven other schools have  
21 assistants totaling more than \$3 million in compensation: Texas, Alabama, Auburn, Ohio State,  
22 Oregon, Florida State and Oklahoma State. Last year, six schools had \$3 million assistant-coaching  
23 staffs. In 2009, there was one: Tennessee's, at \$3.3 million." The article continued that "The  
24 average pay for assistants at Football Bowl Subdivision schools (not including four schools that  
25 moved up to that level just this season) this season is nearly \$201,000. Eighteen assistants make at  
26 least \$600,000 this season, almost quadruple the number in 2009. There were 14 last season and  
27 nine in 2010. Among conferences, the Southeastern Conference has the highest average  
28

1 compensation per assistant this season at more than \$315,000. The Big 12 is next at just under  
2 \$290,000.”

3 249. NCAA executives themselves share in the enormous wealth created by the efforts of  
4 college athletes. For example, the NCAA’s 2011 IRS tax return, the most recent publicly available  
5 one, states that President Mark Emmert received annual compensation of \$1,674,095, another  
6 executive \$977,531, two more above \$500,000, three more above \$400,000, eight more above  
7 \$300,000, and four more well above \$200,000.

8 250. The Conference Commissioners also do very well. For example, on May 19, 2013,  
9 Steve Berkowitz of *USA Today* reported that “Pacific-12 Conference commissioner Larry Scott was  
10 credited with nearly \$3.1 million in compensation during the 2011 calendar year, according to the  
11 conference’s latest federal tax return – and he isn’t the only highly paid member on his staff. Scott  
12 received \$1.575 million in base compensation – \$575,000 more than in 2010 – and about  
13 \$1.5 million in bonus and other pay ... Deputy commissioner Kevin Weiberg was credited with  
14 \$563,607 in total compensation, including more than \$356,000 in base pay and the rest in bonus or  
15 other pay. Weiberg’s total compensation surpassed the commissioners of the Big East Conference  
16 and Conference USA. John Marinatto, the Big East’s commissioner in 2011 (he resigned in May  
17 2012) was paid \$560,777 in 2011, including \$505,000 in base compensation ... That was only  
18 slightly more than the total Conference USA reported for Commissioner Britton Banowsky.  
19 Banowsky was credited with \$559,243 in compensation, which included \$427,153 in base pay.  
20 Scott’s compensation is about \$300,000 more than that reported for Big Ten commissioner Jim  
21 Delany and almost double the nearly \$1.6 million total for Southeastern Conference commissioner  
22 Mike Slive.”

23 251. University Athletics Directors also do very well. On March 6, 2013, *USA Today*  
24 reported that “Athletics directors at schools in the NCAA’s Football Bowl Subdivision (excluding  
25 four that moved up to the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2012) make an average salary of roughly  
26 \$515,000, up more than 14% since USA TODAY Sports last looked at AD compensation in October  
27 2011 ... The number making \$1 million or more is up to nine from six, including Jurich. The  
28 number making \$800,000 or more is up to 15 from nine ... Jurich [of the University of Louisville] is

1 the highest-paid athletics director at a public school. His complex deal, valued at a little more than  
2 \$1.4 million, is nearly \$180,000 more than the next highest. “Let’s hope that continues, huh?” he  
3 says.”

4 252. An article regarding the NCAA’s Pac 12 Conference, in *USA Today*, dated August 10,  
5 2012, detailed the Pac 12’s launch of its own television network, and stated that “[s]ome projections  
6 have the Pac-12 Networks, along with a 12-year, \$3 billion deal with Fox and ESPN, providing  
7 roughly \$30 million a school annually ...” The article quotes the Pac 12’s Commissioner, Larry  
8 Scott, as stating “My mandate was, how do you take this storied conference with all this success but  
9 is undervalued, under-leveraged from an exposure standpoint, as well as a revenue standpoint, and  
10 help kind of turn it around, build an enterprise that stays true to the values of the conference? How  
11 do we blow this thing out?”

12 253. The *USA Today* article further quoted Pac 12 Enterprises President Gary Stevenson as  
13 stating “We don’t think just about a television network or a digital network, but rather, we’re  
14 creating a content company.”

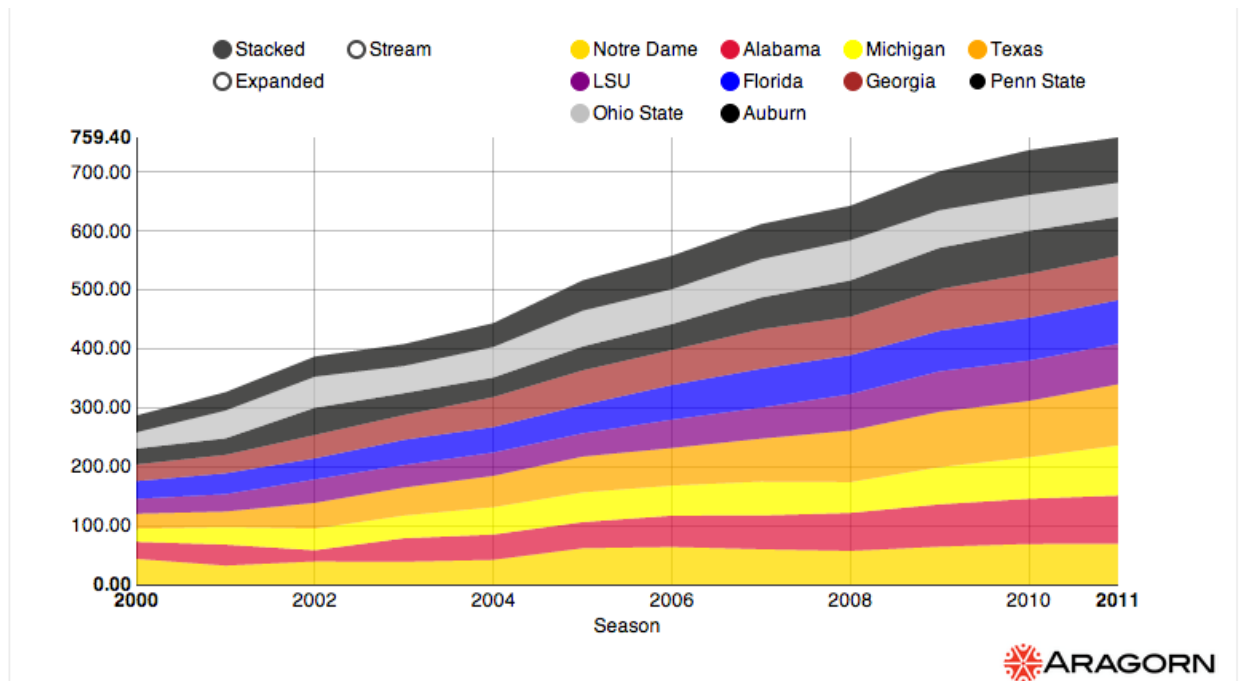
15 254. The *USA Today* article further discussed the Big 10 Conference’s Big 10 Network,  
16 and quoted Jeremy Gray, Indiana University’s Assistant Athletics Director for Broadcast Services, as  
17 stating that “[w]hen the [Big 10] network launched [in 2007], people wondered if it was going to be  
18 a colossal failure. Now, it’s basically printing money for the schools. It’s been far more profitable  
19 than anyone anticipated ... It’s simply put us at another level financially.”

20 255. The scheduling of games is done without regard to student-athlete welfare. As the  
21 *Arizona Daily Star* reported in February 2013, “Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott was in Tucson last  
22 week to attend his first game at McKale Center, a dreaded 9 p.m. start to accommodate ESPN2 ...  
23 Scott delivered on his promise to broadcast every Pac-12 conference game ... The give-and-take of  
24 televising so many games is that it requires late tips, Wednesday games and Sunday games.  
25 Sometimes, as with Saturday night’s ASU-Washington game, a 9 p.m. start in Tempe, it’s a bit  
26 extreme ... ‘I don’t like the new scheduling,’ UA senior forward Solomon Hill told me in Salt Lake  
27 City. ‘We’re gone way too long. I’ve got class. I’m still a student-athlete, you know. But I guess  
28 they’ll do just about anything for TV.’”

256. Regarding conference realignment, and schools switching conferences, Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski was quoted in the December 17, 2012, issue of *Sports Illustrated* as stating that “[w]e’re undercutting the basic foundation of intercollegiate sports – tradition. Tradition is what separates us from professional sports. With all this realignment, people are making decisions like business executives instead of like the heads of academic institutions.”

257. Mr. Krzyzewski was further quoted in the January 14-20, 2013, issue of *SportsBusiness Journal* as stating that, with regard to college sports and conference realignment, “It’s about money. People say it’s about football, and for 100 or so schools, football drives that. At our school, basketball drives money, and a lot of schools are like that. But football can drive a lot of money. So that’s why were doing all this? There’s no grand plan.”

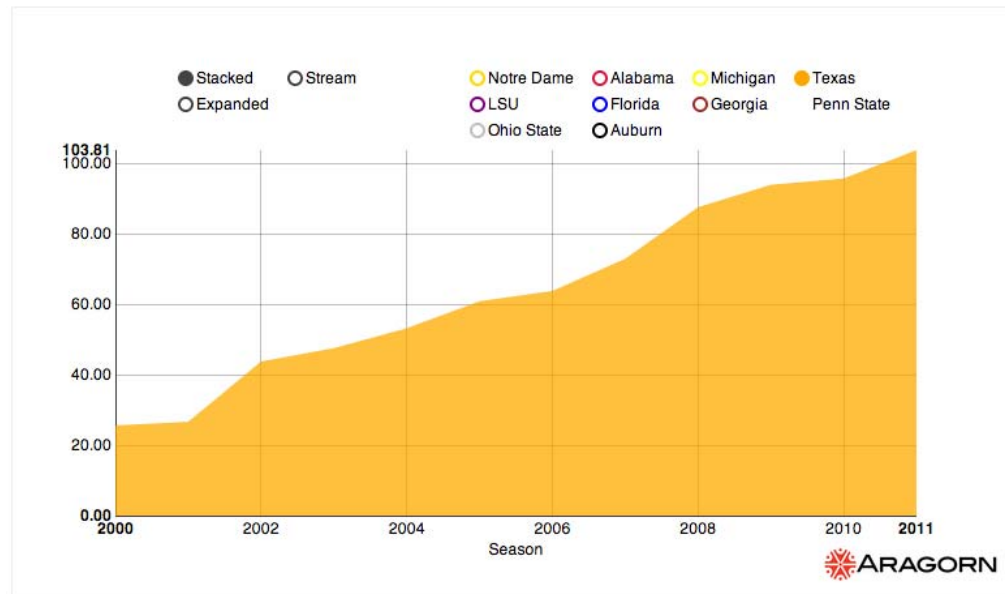
258. The highly lucrative nature of college football is highlighted below. The data researchers at Aragorn Technologies compiled the numbers (see chart below) reported by universities to the U.S. Department of Education as mandated by the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act. Here are the 10 schools that brought in the most college football money from academic years 2000-2001 through 2011-2012:





259. Notice the revenue increase in football for these schools: from less than \$300 million to more than \$759 million a decade later. That is over 150 percent growth, or about 9 percent annualized.<sup>25</sup>

260. One university exemplifying the exposure football receives is the University of Texas:



261. The Longhorns expanded their football revenue from \$25.6 million in 2000-01 to \$103.8 million in 2011-12. That is a *quadruple* increase in one decade.

**I. Former NCAA Executive Director, Walter Byers, Makes Clear in his Book that the Purpose of NCAA rules is to Fix Prices**

262. Walter Byers served as the Executive Director of the NCAA for nearly 4 decades, from 1951 to 1987. In 1995, he wrote a remarkable book, titled “*Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Exploiting College Athletes.*” Some of the relevant passages are set forth as follows:

“[i]n the late 1940s, I was one of a small group that patched together the diverse interests of college athletics into a body politic, the modern National Collegiate Athletic Association. I then became the NCAA’s first full-time executive director and, until my retirement in 1987, its only one. I was charged with the dual mission of keeping intercollegiate sports clean while generating millions of dollars each year as income for the colleges.” (page 5).

“[D]own the years I had negotiated nearly 50 sports television contracts that piled multimillion-dollar deals one on top of another –

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-09-26/the-amazing-growth-in-college-football-revenues>.

1 money that funneled directly to the colleges ... As the rewards  
2 multiplied, unanswered contradictions quickly followed.” (page 9).

3 “Today, the NCAA Presidents Commission is preoccupied with  
4 tightening a few loose bolts in a worn machine, firmly committed to  
5 the neoplantation belief that the enormous proceeds from college  
6 games belong to the overseers (the administrators) and supervisors  
7 (coaches). The plantation workers performing in the arena may  
8 receive only those benefits authorized by the overseers. This system is  
9 so biased against human nature and simple fairness in light of today’s  
10 high-dollar, commercialized marketplace that the ever increasing  
11 number of primary and secondary NCAA infractions cases of the  
12 1990s emerge in the current environment as mostly an indictment of  
13 the system itself.” (page 2-3).

14 “In an unpublicized written memo to the top NCAA management  
15 group [in 1985], I said full-need student-athletes should be given  
16 additional financial assistance over the permitted grant-in-aid. The  
17 memo said: ‘I earnestly hope that the membership does not take a  
18 righteous stand in favor of old-time amateur principles for the athlete,  
19 but modern-day commercial involvement for coaches and institutions,  
20 and somehow expect a relatively small NCAA enforcement crew to  
21 keep the situation clean.’ ... All I accomplished with those efforts was  
22 a hardening of the NCAA position on ‘amateurism.’ Players must be  
23 shielded from exploitation and the taint of commercial gold, the  
24 NCAA officially reiterated in the early 1990s, and it then confirmed  
25 that the gold belonged to the coaches and the colleges.” (page 13).

26 “As the enormous financial rewards for winning expanded during the  
27 1960s and multiplied in the 1970s and 1980s, NCAA enforcement  
28 never kept pace and the effectiveness of conference commissioners as  
regulators and enforcers became virtually non-existent. Periodic  
countertrends through the years have caused endless debates,  
noteworthy for maximum verbiage and minimum results.” (page 40).

“[In the early 1950s, opponents of grants-in-aid not tied to financial  
need] labeled the emerging grant-in-aid system ‘pay for play.’ These  
arguments became muted, however, as more and more colleges went to  
grant-in-aid funding to meet the competition. It was then that they  
came face to face with a serious, external threat that prompted most of  
the colleges to unite and insist with one voice that, grant-in-aid or not,  
college sports still were only for ‘amateurs.’ That threat was the  
dreaded notion that NCAA athletes could be identified as *employees* by  
state industrial commission and the courts.” (page 69).

“[In response to the workers’ compensation concern], We crafted the  
term *student-athlete*, and soon it was embedded in all NCAA rules and  
interpretations as a mandated substitute for such words as players and  
athletes. We told college publicists to speak of ‘college teams,’ not  
football or basketball ‘clubs,’ a word common to the pros.” (page 69).

“[i]n 1956, the college, acting through the NCAA in the name of  
‘amateurism,’ installed their own pay system called the athletics grant-  
in-aid or athletics ‘scholarship.’” (page 65).

1 “[In 1957, the NCAA defined allowable grant-in-aid expenses] “as  
2 tuition, fees, room and board, books, and \$15 per month for nine  
3 months for laundry money. This compensation package represented an  
4 arbitrary but uniquely lucrative allowance at the time, all dedicated to  
5 amateurism. The rationale was that if a player received only expenses,  
6 even though it was more than other students received, he was not being  
7 paid to perform.”

8 “The accounting variables in college athletics make it difficult if not  
9 impossible to know whether a big-time sport pays for itself, much less  
10 whether it generates net receipts to finance the deficit sports ... Do *any*  
11 major sports programs make money for their universities? Sure, but  
12 the trick is to overspend and feed the myth that even the industry’s  
13 plutocrats teeter on insolvency.” (pages 221-22).

14 “The original grant-in-aid concept of the mid-1950s had allowed for  
15 \$15 per month for laundry money. The rule was expanded in time to  
16 include course-related supplies. These extra benefits were eliminated  
17 by subsequent NCAA economy actions, and this irritated the bigger  
18 schools almost to the same degree as the ban on travel uniforms.  
19 Repeated efforts were mounted to reestablish a monthly cash stipend,  
20 many arguing that it should be \$50. These initiatives were averted ...”  
21 (page 236).

22 “College athletics reform movements spanning almost 90 years have  
23 been remarkably consistent. They never reformed much of anything.  
24 For nearly 40 of those years, I was part of those visionary efforts that  
25 came to naught. We seemed to be constantly chasing the horse after it  
26 had escaped from the barn.” (page 337).

27 “Spectators following the college ‘reform’ game need a scorecard to  
28 keep track of the many measures that have carried the promise of  
change. My tally sheet shows only a few major engagements, and  
even in these the changes were only temporary.” (page 337).

“[t]he Olympics, bellwether of amateurism for half a century, now  
permits athletes to escrow big dollars and still compete for the gold.  
NBA greats form the nucleus of the U.S. Olympic basketball team.  
The colleges, meanwhile, have expanded their control of athletes in the  
name of amateurism – a modern-day misnomer for economic tyranny.  
These regulations, like procrustean laws, require all athletes to  
conform.” (page 347).

“Pleading hard times and a desperate need for money is standard  
disinformation pumped out by the biggest colleges.” (page 357).

“I believe the record now clearly shows the major hope for reform lies  
*outside* the collegiate structure. What the colleges will not do  
voluntarily should be done for them.” (page 369).

“Collegiate amateurism is not a moral issue; it is an economic  
camouflage for monopoly practice.” (page 376).

“[P]rotecting young people from commercial evils is a transparent  
excuse for monopoly operations that benefit others. The colleges do

1 take part in trusts (i.e., groups in which control of the members is  
2 vested in a single entity), combinations (as association of firms for a  
3 commercial purpose), and monopoly practices (exclusive control of a  
4 commodity or service)." (page 388).

5 "Prosecutors and the courts, with the support of the public, should use  
6 antitrust laws to break up the collegiate cartel . . ." (page 388).

7 "[The NCAA's 512 pages of] rules, based on a turn-of-the-century  
8 theory of amateurism, enforce a modern economic order. Today's  
9 educational reformers seem increasingly content to engage in a  
10 pedantic tautology. Players may not receive money, except what we  
11 give them, because they must remain amateurs to be eligible under our  
12 rules. They are amateurs if are rules say they are. Thus, they may only  
13 receive what our rules permit." (page 390).

14 "[T]he college player cannot sell his own feet (the coach does that) [via  
15 shoe endorsement deals] nor can he sell his own name (the college will  
16 do that). This is the plantation mentality resurrected and blessed by  
17 today's campus executives." (page 391).

18 "A meeting among business competitors to harmonize their bids on a  
19 contract is usually called a conspiracy. More than 900 members  
20 agreeing by contract through the NCAA to issue common contracts to  
21 young people recruited to play on various sports teams seems to fit that  
22 niche." (page 391).

23 "Since the same college people who harvest the returns set the rules,  
24 issue the interpretations, rule on athletes' eligibility, and decide how  
25 the annual profits should be divided, I believe state and federal  
26 challenges to these artificial restraints will be necessary." (page 392).

## 27 **J. Reality of College-Athlete Life**

28 263. There is a vast amount of information available that documents the realities of  
College-Athlete life in the Division I revenue producing sports, *i.e.*, men's basketball and football.  
Those athletes typically do not enjoy an academic experience anything like that of "regular"  
students. Such athletes frequently are required by the university to devote more than 40 hours a  
week to their sports, can have enormous travel demands placed upon them, are often spoon-fed a  
curriculum of athlete-friendly classes that are nothing like those experienced by the general student  
population, and their graduation rates frequently are abysmal.

264. Two Michigan State University law professors, Robert A. McCormick and Amy  
Christian McCormick, recently conducted a study regarding Division I athletes in the revenue  
generating sports, and concluded that those athletes' "daily burdens and obligations not only meet

1 the legal standard of employee, but far exceed the burdens and obligations of most university  
2 employees.”

3 265. After they spend their college years juggling athletic and academic requirements,  
4 many college athletes wind up substantially in debt because their scholarships did not fully cover the  
5 basic necessities of life. A recent study illustrated that so-called “full scholarships” can leave college  
6 athletes with as much as \$30,000 in normal student expenses uncovered over the course of their  
7 collegiate athletic careers.

8 266. College athletes who participate in Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football  
9 often spend 30-60 hours per week in practice, team meetings, travel and official games during the  
10 season, and many hours per week in athletics-related activities even during the off season. During  
11 the most recent NCAA annual meeting in San Diego, NCAA President Mark Emmert stated “... in  
12 Division 1 where, you know, student-athletes in some sports are putting in 30-to-40 hours a week,  
13 well that’s a full time, uh, commitment, ....”<sup>26</sup> Although NCAA rules theoretically restrict the time  
14 college athletes may spend on their sport to 20 hours per week, the NCAA rules contain a large  
15 loophole for so-called “voluntary” workouts that do not count toward the limit and which college  
16 athletes understand to be mandatory in the eyes of their coaches.

17 267. According to the *Daily Northwestern* on February 19, 2014, at the recent National  
18 Labor Relations Board hearing in Chicago, Northwestern’s associate athletic director of compliance  
19 Brian Baptiste indicated that NCAA rules limiting mandatory participation to 20 hours contain  
20 loopholes so no matter how long an away game takes, including travel to and from the game, NCAA  
21 rules mandate that it counts as only 3 hours towards the official limit of 20.

22 In its cross-examination of Baptiste, CAPA focused on the definition  
23 of “countable athletics-related activities,” which dictates which hours  
24 count toward the NCAA weekly maximum of 20. A day after former  
25 NU quarterback Kain Colter testified players spend as many as 40-50  
26 hours a week on football during the season, Baptiste explained that all

27 <sup>26</sup> See it on video here, where he ALMOST says “job” before changing it to “commitment”  
28 [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02aKLJzsV2k&feature=player\\_detailpage#t=2254](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02aKLJzsV2k&feature=player_detailpage#t=2254).

game-day activities count as only three hours, regardless of how much time was actually preparing for and playing the game.<sup>27</sup>

The *Chicago Sun-Times* from the same day explained:

Meanwhile, an university athletics official testified that football players cannot practice for a game for more than 20 hours a week during the season under NCAA rules, but he acknowledged that players exceed those hours by simply traveling to games.

“No one is forcing him to get on the bus” or even to play if the player doesn’t want to, said Brian Baptiste, the university’s associate athletic director for compliance. “We’re not mandating someone to be a student athlete. You have the ability to withdraw from the program.”<sup>28</sup>

The 20-hour limit, called Countable Athletically Related Activity, or CARA, omits hours in travel, warm-ups, extra practices and other activities that the rules deem voluntary, Baptiste said.

268. Because of the tremendous time commitment required to participate in major college sports, as well as NCAA and institutional rules in force during portions of the Class Period that precluded college athletes from working part-time jobs during the school year, college athletes generally are unable to earn additional money from part-time jobs during the school year.

269. The overwhelming majority of players do not turn professional, and those that do turn professional typically do not remain professionals for very long. Those that do become professionals often emerge from universities totally unprepared to manage their finances, and thus frequently fall prey to financial predators, as a recent expose in *Sports Illustrated* magazine documented.

270. There is no question that the grant-in-aid cap is in effect an agreement to fix wages.

271. Any empirical observation of student-athletes’ daily activities shows that student-athletes are closely akin in practice to traditional workers.<sup>29</sup> For example, “a self-study performed by the NCAA in 2011” found that “Division I [college] football players [devoted] an average of 43.3 hours per week to their sport” – more time than they spent on academic activities, and more than a

<sup>27</sup> <http://dailynorthwestern.com/2014/02/19/sports/sports-economist-northwestern-compliance-official-testify-on-second-day-of-nlrh-hearing/>.

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/25696146-418/nu-football-union-would-struggle-because-of-ncaa-rules-economist.html>.

<sup>29</sup> See generally Robert A. McCormick & Amy Christian McCormick, *The Myth of the Student-Athlete: The College Athlete As Employee*, 81 WASH. L. REV. 71, 129 (2006) (highlighting the argument made by some that student-athletes cannot be victims of wage fixing because they are not employees).



1 typical U.S. worker spends on his profession. In addition, student-athletes seem to meet the Internal  
 2 Revenue Service's multifactor test for employment because NCAA coaching staffs exercise year-  
 3 round behavioral controls over student-athletes and impose strict limits on their outside financial  
 4 activities. Furthermore, in the context of workers' compensation law, at least one court has issued an  
 5 award to a student-athlete – thus treating him as a *de facto* employee.

6 272. All of these factors combine to significantly rebut the longstanding legal fiction  
 7 advanced by the NCAA that student-athletes are foremost students and not workers. Indeed, there is  
 8 even some evidence that this legal fiction was created by the NCAA for the specific purpose of  
 9 trying to avoid antitrust scrutiny.<sup>30</sup> Thus, it would be the most bizarre of loopholes to allow the  
 10 NCAA to evade antitrust scrutiny simply by applying a dubious label to their business practices.<sup>31</sup>

#### 11 **K. Defendants' Likely Affirmative Defenses Do Not Apply**

12 273. The NCAA in other antitrust litigation has repeatedly articulated various affirmative  
 13 defenses that Defendants are likely to reflexively again assert in the present case. These alleged  
 14 defenses, if asserted in the present litigation, lack adequate factual and legal support, and do not  
 15 excuse Defendants' violation of the Sherman Act and other laws.

##### 16 **1. Academic consensus that amateurism is a façade.**

17 There exists a broad consensus among economists and professors of sports management that  
 18 "amateurism" as the NCAA defines it, is really just a façade to cover up what amounts to the  
 19 monopolization of the industry via a cartel, and collective price-fixing. This literature includes the  
 20 popular press, published academic articles, and textbooks:

21 (a) Barro, Robert J., "The Best Little Monopoly in America," *BusinessWeek*,  
 22 December 9, 2002

23 "Finally, we come to the NCAA, which has successfully suppressed  
 24 financial competition in college sports. The NCAA is impressive  
 25 partly because its limitations on scholarships and other payments to  
 athletes boost the profitability of college sports programs. But even

26 <sup>30</sup> See McCormick & McCormick, *supra* n.71, at 74 (arguing that the NCAA self-coined the term  
 27 "student-athlete" to perpetuate a myth of amateurism and "obtain the astonishing pecuniary gain and  
 related benefits of the athletes' talents, time, and energy").

28 <sup>31</sup> See generally *Am. Needle, Inc. v. NFL*, 130 S. Ct. 2201, 2213 (2010) ("An ongoing § 1  
 violation cannot evade § 1 scrutiny simply by giving the ongoing violation a name and label.").



more impressive is the NCAA's ability to maintain the moral high ground... So given this great balancing act, the NCAA is the clear choice for best monopoly in America."

(b) [Nobel Prize Winner] Becker, Gary, "The NCAA as a Powerful Cartel," The Becker-Posner Blog, April 3, 2011.

"It is impossible for an outsider to look at these rules without concluding that their main aim is to make the NCAA an effective cartel that severely constrains competition among schools for players."

(c) Becker, Gary "The NCAA: A Cartel in Sheepskin Clothing," Business Week, September 14, 1987. (<http://www.geocities.ws/jfletchman/beckerncaacartel.html>)

"Economists disagree about many things, but they strongly agree that cartels raise prices, lower outputs, and are bad for society. The effect on prices and output of explicit cartels like OPEC are direct and obvious. The harmful effects of cartels that hide behind the smokescreen of good intentions are more difficult to detect, especially when nonprofit institutions are involved. The NCAA is a prime example of such a cartel. It is time that all the NCAA's restrictions on competition for athletes and sports revenues be declared an unlawful conspiracy in violation of the antitrust laws."

(d) Humphreys, Brad R. and Jane E. Ruseski, "Monitoring Cartel Behavior and Stability: Evidence from NCAA Football," Southern Economic Journal, Volume 75, Number 3, 2001, pp. 1-20.

"Most economists view the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) as a cartel operating as a monoposonist in the market for athletic recruits." (p. 1)

(e) Kahn, Lawrence M., "Markets: Cartel Behavior and Amateurism in College Sports," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 21, 2007, pp. 209-226.

"Most economists who have studied the NCAA view it as a cartel that attempts to produce rents, both by limiting payments for inputs such as player compensation and by limiting output (for example, Alchian and Allen, 1972; Becker, 1987; Barro, 2002)." (p. 210)

...

"Computations such as these offer evidence that the NCAA does indeed use its cartel power to pay top athletes less than their market value (Fleisher, Goff, and Tollison, 1992; Zimbalist, 1999)." (p. 212)

(f) Koch, James V., "A Troubled Cartel: The NCAA," Law and Contemporary Problems, Vol. 38 (Winter/Spring), 1973, pp. 135-147.

“Despite the claims of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) that it is a champion of amateur athletics and physical fitness in colleges and universities, the NCAA is in fact a business cartel composed of university-firms which have varying desires to restrict competition and maximize profits in the area of intercollegiate athletics.” (p. 135)

- (g) Koch, James V., “Intercollegiate Athletics: An Economic Explanation,” Social Science Quarterly, Vol. 64, No. 2, June 1983, pp. 360-374.

“The Foundation Argument: The NCAA as a Cartel:

... The NCAA is a cartel because it: (a) sets the maximum price that can be paid for intercollegiate athletes; (b) regulates the quantity of athletes that can be purchased in a given time period; (c) regulates the duration and intensity of usage of those athletes; (d) on occasion fixes the price at which sports outputs can be sold; (e) purports to control the property rights to activities such as the televising of intercollegiate football; (f) periodically informs cartel members about transactions, costs, market conditions, and sales techniques (Raiborn, 1982); (g) occasionally pools and distributes portions of the cartel’s profits; and (h) polices the behavior of its members and levies penalties against those members of the cartel who are deemed to be in violation of cartel rules and regulations.” (p. 361)

- (h) Lazaroff, Daniel E., “The NCAA in Its Second Century: Defender of Amateurism or Antitrust Recidivist?” Oregon Law Review, Vol. 86, No. 2, 2007, pp. 329-371.

“Commentators have explained that while the ‘original mission’ of the NCAA ‘focused on providing public goods’ by reducing violence and standardizing play, the NCAA ‘quickly turned its attention from standardizing rules to instituting the outlines of a cartel.’” (p. 331)

- (i) Posner, Richard, “Monopsony in College Athletics,” The Becker-Posner Blog, April 3, 2011. (<http://www.becker-posner-blog.com/2011/04/monopsony-in-college-athleticsposner.html>)

“The National Collegiate Athletic Association behaves monopsonistically in forbidding its member colleges and universities to pay its athletes. Although cartels, including monopsonistic ones, are generally deemed to be illegal per se under American antitrust law, the NCAA’s monopsonistic behavior has thus far not been successfully challenged.”

- (j) [Former Chief FTC Economist] Tollison, Robert D., “Understanding the Antitrust Economics of Sports Leagues,” Antitrust, Spring 2000, pp. 21 – 24.

“Commonly, the NCAA is viewed as a benign administrator of the rules of college athletics. This perspective recognizes many of the problems and perverse outcomes that result from NCAA rules and

actions; yet these outcomes are usually attributed to the short-sightedness, ignorance, or greed of certain elements within the organization. In contrast, economists generally view the NCAA as a cartel. They hold this view because the NCAA has historically devised rules to restrict output (the number of games televised) and to restrict competition for inputs (student-athletes). Economists have focused primarily on the input market, where monopsonistic aspects of NCAA behavior are evident. NCAA rules concerning recruiting and financial aid are seen as transferring rewards from players to schools and coaches, and the rules are seen as an expression of an agreement among buyers to restrict competition for inputs. These points are well established in the literature, and indeed, it could be observed that the NCAA has obtained much more durable returns on its cartel behavior than other, more notable cartels such as OPEC.” (p 22)

**2. “Amateur College Athletics,” “Amateur College Football,” and “Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Football” all will continue to exist.**

274. The NCAA has asserted in another antitrust litigation an alleged affirmative defense that “the NCAA’s financial aid, eligibility, and amateurism bylaws and rules promote the creation and enhancement of amateur college athletics as ‘products’ or activities that are distinct from professional and other amateur athletics. The NCAA’s financial aid rules accordingly allow the creation and maintenance of a ‘product’ – amateur college athletics – that would otherwise not exist, and are accordingly procompetitive.”

275. Plaintiff here does not seek *any* relief that significantly impacts an alleged product of “amateur college athletics.” For example, even within the NCAA’s structure, hundreds of college football teams exist which compete in collegiate football *outside* of the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision. Specifically, as of the end of the 2012 Season, 124 schools compete in collegiate football within the NCAA’s Division I Football Championship Subdivision, 162 schools compete in collegiate football in the NCAA’s Division II, and 241 schools compete in collegiate football in the NCAA’s Division III.<sup>32</sup> “Amateur college football,” even as restrictively defined by the NCAA, will continue to exist, regardless of the outcome of the present litigation.

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<sup>32</sup> Source : NCAA Football Statistics (Records through 2012 Season).  
 Division I Football Championship Subdivision: 124  
 ([http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football\\_records/2013/FCS.pdf](http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/FCS.pdf)).  
 Division II Football: 162 ([http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football\\_records/2013/D2.pdf](http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/D2.pdf)).  
 Division III Football: 241 ([http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football\\_records/2013/D3.pdf](http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/D3.pdf)).

276. Aside from those schools under the NCAA's preview, there also exist other non-major football associations producing non-major but nonetheless amateur college football. None would be threatened by this ruling. These include the NAIA, the NJCAA, the USCAA, the ACCA, the NWAACC, and the CCCAA.

277. Moreover, Division I Football Bowl Subdivision collegiate football will continue to exist. Numerous leading, mainstream publications have published detailed analyses calling for significant change in the artificial financial aid restraints presently imposed on collegiate athletes. None of them have suggested that such changes would eliminate Division I Football Bowl Subdivision collegiate football. As one such example, *BusinessWeek* published an article on January 2, 2014 explaining that:

Hundreds of thousands of U.S. businesses figure out how much to pay workers without going broke; more to the point, college presidents seem perfectly capable of running institutions with 9- or even 10-figure budgets. They can handle market competition when it comes to recruiting engineering professors, but they're somehow incapable of making rational decisions when the recruits in question are athletes? If the NCAA is right and its members really are broke, the market rate for athletes isn't likely to rise very much. But then that makes you wonder why they are fighting so hard to prevent that outcome in the first place.<sup>33</sup>

As a second of numerous examples, on September 16, 2013, *Time* magazine featured a cover story titled "It's Time to Pay College Athletes." It included the following:

According to a 2012 study from Oxford Economics, a global research firm, a season's worth of Texas A&M home football games generate \$86 million in business for Brazos County, where A&M is located.

...

#### **How We Got Here**

*The athlete is the most available publicity material the college has. A great scientific discovery will make good press material for a few days, but nothing to compare to that of the performance of a first-class athlete.*

No statement better explains why American colleges are so invested in modern-day sports--and why college athletes have a right to a paycheck. It was written in 1929, part of a Carnegie Foundation study

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-01-02/how-much-should-college-athletes-get-paid>.

1 on American college athletics. A college, said the authors, “wants  
2 students, it wants popularity, and above all it wants money and always  
3 more money.”

4 . . .

5 Today college football is a booming profit center for many institutions  
6 at the top of Division 1, the highest level of NCAA sports, and is a  
7 growing portion of the regional economy in college towns like Boise,  
8 Idaho; State College, Pa.; College Station; and South Bend, Ind.  
According to the most recent federal data, the University of Texas  
football team netted a profit of \$77.9 million in 2011--12, on \$103.8  
million in revenue. Michigan made \$61.6 million from football, on  
\$85.2 million in revenue. Any business would kill for those profit  
margins.

9 . . .

### 10 **A Modest Proposal**

11 The time is right to give schools the option to share their rising sports  
12 income with college athletes. Not every school would--or could--  
13 participate. Only the 60 or so schools in the power conferences, which  
14 have the football and basketball revenues to support such payments,  
15 would likely even consider such an option. With conferences and  
schools set to see record television payouts for the next decade and  
beyond, the idea of paying players is no longer just fodder for  
academic debate. It's an ethical imperative.

16 Schools could either pay players whatever schools want in a free  
17 market, or salaries could be subject to regulation. In reality,  
18 universities probably aren't going to go from \$0 in compensation,  
where they are now, to allowing an unlimited amount. Salary caps  
exist in the NBA and NFL; they're fair game for college sports too.

19 . . .

20 College sports are already impure; paying players can't make things  
21 much worse. At the highest levels, the games are mass entertainment.

22 . . .

23 Most important, player payments would force schools to operate in an  
24 environment in which they're honest with themselves. Sports are a big  
25 business, and we value the exposure and revenue that it brings to our  
26 schools. But let's stop saying one thing--"we care for our student-  
athletes"--while doing another: preventing them from benefiting  
monetarily. "Living a lie," says Richard Southall, director of the  
College Sport Research Institute at the University of South Carolina,  
"is hard to do."

27 Within higher ed, there's clearly momentum to give athletes at least a  
28 little more than what they're getting now. "I think there is change  
likely on the horizon," says Nebraska chancellor Harvey Perlman, who  
is chairman of the Bowl Championship Series oversight committee.

1 The NCAA membership has stalled a plan giving schools the option to  
 2 offer a \$2,000 stipend to cover expenses beyond tuition, room and  
 3 board, books and fees. Many schools at the lower levels of Division 1  
 said they couldn't afford it.

4 But at this point, the power football conferences seem determined to  
 offer at least some kind of extra. "I think we will find a way to provide  
 5 all scholarship student-athletes with the full cost-of-attendance  
 scholarship," says Perlman. As for anything above that, don't expect  
 6 radical change, but universities' leaders are at least discussing it. "I  
 don't think there's any doubt about that," says Martin, the Colorado  
 State chancellor who was recently chancellor at LSU.

7 . . .

8 The U.S. has enjoyed a long, deep love affair with college sports. It's  
 9 about time we finally paid for it.

10 278. A prime, analogous example of a change in athlete compensation practices not  
 11 negatively impacting sports fans' enjoyment of a product is in regards to the Olympics. On July 25,  
 12 2012, *The Atlantic* published a detailed article titled "The Olympics Show Why College Sports  
 13 Should Give Up on Amateurism." Therein, the author Patrick Hruby wrote:

14 Things were falling apart. The system would not hold. For decades, it  
 15 had clung to the amateur ideal, enforced by a watchful governing body:  
 Athletes could not receive material gain, directly or indirectly, for  
 16 playing sports.

17 Only the cash came anyway, in drips and drabs and great big gushers,  
 mostly under the table, the public's insatiable demand for spectacle  
 18 rushing to meet a limited supply of talented performers. Some decried  
 the resulting corruption and hypocrisy; others lambasted the unfairness  
 of it all. Prominent voices demanded wholesale change. Still,  
 19 amateurism's defenders held fast, with one telling *Sports Illustrated*  
 that "if we water down the rules now, the [sport] will be destroyed  
 20 within eight years."

21 The above does not describe the National Collegiate Athletic  
 22 Association and contemporary big-time college sports.

23 The year was 1960. The subject was the Olympics. Once upon a time,  
 the Games were an amateur affair, as committed to no-pay-for-play –  
 24 no salaries, no endorsements – as today's NCAA. Of course, that was  
 before former International Olympic Committee head Juan Antonio  
 Samaranch pushed for the inclusion of professional athletes. And  
 25 before basketball's 1992 Dream Team. And before a bevy of pros in  
 everything from track and field to table tennis – in short, the world's  
 26 best – flooded the Games.

27 Yet on the way to a grubby Gomorra of unfettered sports commerce, a  
 28 funny thing happened: The watered-down Olympics didn't exactly  
 sink to the bottom of the Marianas Trench.



“Dead in eight years?” said Olympic historian Bill Mallon, who has written dozens of books about the Games, in a recent interview. “If anything, the Olympics are more popular and powerful than ever. It has been decades since they opened up the Games to the professionals, and they’re still going strong.”

279. Similarly, just as artificial restraints on the compensation of Olympic athletes did not eliminate the Olympics, changes to the artificial restraints on financial aid for Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football players will not eliminate Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football, nor “amateur college football,” nor “amateur athletics.”

### **3. Competitive balance will not be impacted.**

280. The NCAA has elsewhere asserted, as an alleged affirmative defense, that “[i]n addition to enabling the creation of amateur college sports, the NCAA rules promote the creation and maintenance of several unique features of NCAA college athletics, including: They promote competitive balance between and among NCAA member institutions in the various sports in which they compete ....” In actuality, competitive balance does not even presently exist across all NCAA member institutions. This Complaint cites numerous admissions by Defendants and others to that effect. As Defendant Pac 12 Commissioner Larry Scott stated in 2011, “I don’t think there is an even playing field,” Scott said. “There’s not an even playing field in TV exposure. There’s not an even playing field in coaches and coaches’ salaries. There’s not an even playing field in stadiums.”

281. There exists a broad consensus among economists and professors of sports management that while competitive balance may provide important pro-competitive benefits, the NCAA rules in suit with respect to the fixing of prices offered to athletes across Division I do not contribute to competitive balance and may, in fact, harm it. This literature includes published academic articles and textbooks, such as

#### **a. Peach, Jim (2007)**

He found that 50% of the Final Four teams from 1950-2006 were from 13 schools. 50% of the top 8 finishes in the AP final poll in college football (from 1950-2005) were from 12 schools. He concludes that there is not much competitive balance in the NCAA. Specifically, Peach writes:

By any reasonable standard, the NCAA has failed in its efforts to improve competitive balance in football.



1 Peach concludes (with emphasis added) that:

2 ... Third, there is little evidence that the NCAA rules and regulations  
3 have promoted competitive balance in college athletics and no a priori  
4 reason to think that eliminating the rules would change the competitive  
5 balance situation. Would such price competition alter the distribution  
6 of playing talent among academic institutions? No one knows for  
7 certain, but it is worth noting that the power schools in football were  
8 the power schools before the imposition of NCAA regulations. ...  
**There is also the possibility that eliminating the NCAA eligibility  
and financial restrictions might increase competitive balance,  
particularly in football.** In an unrestricted system, wages for first-  
team student athletes at nonpower schools might be higher than wages  
for second or third team talent at the power schools. So, it is possible  
that the distribution of student athlete talent could change.

9 Peach then adds:

10 Fourth, colleges and universities could save a great deal of money. The  
11 money cost of participating in the NCAA and in complying with its  
12 many regulations is a large but unknown figure. University delegations  
13 to NCAA meetings consist of at least an Athletic Director, a university  
14 president (since 1997), a faculty representative, and others. In addition,  
there is the on-going process and associated costs of enforcement and  
compliance on campus. Even on a relatively small campus, this can  
involve full-time staff members and faculty oversight committees.

15 Fifth, university administrators would be forced to make hard decisions  
16 instead of relying on the protective shield of NCAA regulations. What  
17 hard decisions? Universities would be forced to establish their own  
18 academic eligibility requirements for student athletes. Sixth, if the  
NCAA were to disappear there would be no apparent adverse  
consequences for women's sports. After all, it was Title IX and not the  
NCAA that provided the incentive for academic institutions to devote  
more resources to women's sports.

19 \Seventh, TV revenues might increase. TV revenue, especially for  
20 football, is a complex issue. The NCAA has never fully come to grips  
21 with this issue involving laws such as the Sports Broadcasting Act of  
1961, conferences, bowl-games, conferences, and the distribution of  
revenues among universities. That is why we have the BCS games.

22 Eighth, there is no reason to expect that attendance at major sporting  
23 events would decline. Fans do not attend games or watch them on TV  
24 to see the NCAA in action. It might be fun, however, to broadcast the  
annual convention of the NCAA so that their decisions were truly  
public.

25 Is the NCAA necessary? When an institution fails to perform basic  
26 functions, it may be time to alter that institution. Who could change or  
27 abolish the NCAA? The universities could do so. The universities are  
28 the NCAA. Many others have suggested various reforms for the  
NCAA (Fort, 2003; Zimbalist, 1999). What is being suggested here  
goes beyond reform of the NCAA. The NCAA serves no useful  
purpose and should be abolished.

b. Fort (Sports Economics 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2005, pp. 492-495)

“Just as with pro leagues, a cursory analysis reveals that none of the restrictions on players actually have anything to do with competitive imbalance. Instead, they transfer value produced by players away from the players and toward the athletic department.” (p. 492)

...

“Interestingly, many believe that these recruiting restrictions create a level playing field that enables poorer athletic departments to compete with richer ones for talent. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Instead, these restrictions entrench power at departments at the top end of the winning percent distribution.” (p. 495)

c. Eckard (1998)

“The NCAA regulates college football player recruiting, eligibility, and compensation. The economic theory of cartels suggests that one consequence may be reduced competitive balance. The enforced restrictions inhibit weak teams from improving, and protect strong teams from competition. A “stratification” is implied which should be evident over time as less “churning” in national rankings and conference standings, and fewer schools achieving national prominence. I test this general hypothesis by comparing various competitive balance measures for about 25 years before and after NCAA enforcement began in 1952. The hypothesis is supported by all measures at both the national and conference levels.” (p. 347)

d. Depken and Wilson (2004a)

“We find that over time, Division 1-A football has become less balanced...” Using the measure most preferred by the authors, “almost all of the institutional changes modeled here have had a negative impact on competitive balance, supporting the special interest-pressure group hypothesis.” (p. 209)

...

“NCAA decisions have little impact on the competitiveness of NCAA football

e. Depken and Wilson (2004b)

“Our pooled results do support the claim that NCAA enforcement may have the unintended consequence of reducing competitive balance...”

f. Quirk (2004)

“...[I]n almost all of the conferences, even including the Ivy League, there have been one or more teams that have had records of winning championships significantly different from the equal playing strengths ideal.” (p. 72).

1           **4. Emmert Statements regarding inter-conference competition (other than with**  
 2           **respect to the alleged collusion) and the lack of competitive balance within**  
 3           **Division I.**

3           282. NCAA President Mark Emmert:

4                   a.       “Emmert said he doesn’t blame the conferences for taking all that’s offered.  
 5 But he’s the president of all NCAA schools, not just those at the top of the football pyramid. ‘There  
 6 are a variety of dynamics out there that will continue to drive the gap between the highest resource  
 7 schools and the lowest for the foreseeable future,’ Emmert said. ‘I don’t see that trend abating at  
 8 all.’<sup>34</sup>

9                   b.       “If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic program,  
 10 they’re going to go.”<sup>35</sup>

11                  c.       “I don’t think any of the Butler kids were recruited by, you know, by  
 12 Kansas.”<sup>36</sup>

13                  d.       “So if you’ve got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn’t  
 14 going to make much of a difference.”<sup>37</sup>

15                  e.       “As for the continued separation of the haves and the have nots, that’s  
 16 economics, Emmert said. ‘We’ve always had that. The financial differences have always been  
 17 there. Some universities have huge competitive advantages [because] of history and culture and  
 18 decisions that the university made over decades that are in some ways insurmountable and you  
 19 wouldn’t want to take them away. ... I’m sure Alabama under Bear Bryant had these stunning  
 20 competitive advantages ... Now to say that the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Alabama have  
 21  
 22  
 23

24                   <sup>34</sup> <http://www.kansas.com/2012/07/07/2401039/a-look-at-athletic-department.html>.

25                   <sup>35</sup> [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/\\_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes).

26                   <sup>36</sup> [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/\\_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes).

27                   <sup>37</sup> <http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-gap-2251444.php>.  
 28

1 huge competitive disadvantages it didn't look much different 40 years ago. It reinforces some of  
 2 those inherent advantages some of those universities have had for a century.”<sup>38</sup>

3 **5. Education will remain a condition of athlete eligibility.**

4 283. The NCAA, in other litigation, has asserted as an alleged affirmative defense that its  
 5 financial aid rules “help to insure that student-athletes are integrated into the student body as a whole  
 6 and that education remains an important component of the student-athlete experience.” This alleged  
 7 affirmative defense, if asserted in the present litigation, is a non-starter. To be clear, in no sense does  
 8 any of the relief sought by Plaintiff herein challenge any rules or regulations that require Class  
 9 members to be students in good standing at their respective academic institutions.

10 **VI. INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE**

11 284. The business activities of Defendants that are the subject of this action were and are  
 12 within the flow of, and substantially affected and affect, interstate trade and commerce.

13 285. During the Class Period, Defendants transacted business in multiple states in a  
 14 continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate commerce throughout the United States.

15 286. While there are no limits to what coaches and administrators can make, the NCAA's  
 16 definition of amateurism caps “full” athletic scholarships below Cost of Attendance, or the price tag  
 17 that each school reports to the U.S. Department of Education. The athletic scholarship is the  
 18 compensation that athletes receive for their contributions to the college, and every full athletic  
 19 scholarship in the nation leaves them with out-of-pocket education related expenses. Using the Cost  
 20 of Attendance figures that colleges report to the Department of Education each year, a recent study  
 21 found that the average scholarship shortfall for a full scholarship athlete at a Football Bowl  
 22 Subdivision school was \$3,222 in 2010-11. Jim Delany of Defendant Big Ten Conference puts this  
 23 estimate as high as \$5,000 for Big Ten Schools.

24 287. These same colleges are free to *give* full *academic* scholarships that fully cover the  
 25 Cost of Attendance while their “full” *athletic* scholarships must fall short of the Cost of Attendance  
 26 due to the NCAA's definition of amateurism. As one such example, the University of North

27 <sup>38</sup> [http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-](http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown)  
 28 [conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown.](http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown)

Carolina (at Chapel Hill) gives out the Morehead-Cain scholarship, which the school describes on its website as “The oldest, most prestigious merit scholarship program in the United States.” This scholarship provides more than a “Full Ride” GIA, including:

- full tuition
- student fees
- housing
- meals
- books and a laptop
- supplies and miscellaneous
- A four-year Summer Enrichment Program made up of diverse, customized experiences that begin the summer before freshman year and include:
  - Outdoor Leadership
  - Public Service
  - Inquiry and Exploration
  - Private Enterprise
- Discovery Funds to be used for education opportunities

288. In contrast, college athletes have been promised by their colleges and coaches that their educational pursuits will be fully supported with a “full” scholarship, but despite record revenues, they have never fully funded this promise. This leaves most players and their families unprepared for the financial demands that they must address.

289. The inequities in this system can be gauged from several vantage points. When head coaches salaries are compared with the scholarship shortfall of entire football teams based on 85 scholarships (using in-state tuition calculations only), the gap is striking. While team shortfalls in 2010-11 ranged from \$80,920 to over \$520,795, some coaches’ bonuses alone were greater than those shortfalls. Then-University of Florida head football coach Urban Myer could have financed the total scholarship shortfall for his entire team, \$271,150, with only *half* of his \$575,000 maximum bonus that year, leaving his \$4 million salary completely intact. Similarly, University of Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops’ contract provided for a maximum bonus of \$819,500 while his football team’s total scholarship shortfall was \$338,980. Among the colleges with the top 10 football revenues, the sum of team scholarship shortfalls was approximately \$2.5 million while the maximum bonuses these head football coaches could earn was \$5.4 million. As mentioned before, taking just

the increase in pay that Alabama coach Nick Saban received after the 2013-14 football season, would be enough to pay each scholarship athlete on Saban's team \$17,000 per year. Although some argue that the financial state of college athletics does not have the resources to remedy the scholarship shortfall problem, dollars allocated to the incentives built into coach contracts to win conference games, achieve a certain winning percentage, be selected for a non-Bowl Championship Series or Bowl Championship Series bowl, be named coach of the year by a conference or national association, or to simply stay at an institution, incentives that hinge on the performance of athletes who generate the money to pay those incentives, would certainly be a budget area to be examined. Even if the claim of poverty is correct, that is no justification for collusion.

## VII. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

Plaintiff brings this action as a class action under Rules 23(a), 23(b)(2) and 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated. The Class is defined as:

All persons who received athletic grants-in-aid ("GIAs") for participation in college football from a college or university that is a member of the following NCAA conferences, the Pac 12 Conference, the Big Ten Conference, the Big 12 Conference, the Southeastern Conference, the Atlantic Coast Conference, at any time between four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint, and the date of judgment in this matter.

290. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number of the Class Members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be discerned through discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes that there are several thousand Class Members.

291. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff and other Class Members sustained damages arising out of Defendants' common course of conduct in violation of law as complained herein. The injuries and damages of each member of the Class were directly caused by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of laws as alleged herein.

292. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class action litigation, including antitrust class action litigation.

1           293. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class which  
2 predominate over any questions affecting solely individual members of the Class. Although in many  
3 cases, the Defendants admit that they have in fact engaged in the conduct listed below, nevertheless  
4 among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

5                   a. Whether Defendants engaged in a contract, combination, or conspiracy to  
6 unreasonably restrain trade by limiting the monetary amount of grants-in-aid given to the Class;

7                   b. Whether such conduct caused members of the Class to receive less in grants-  
8 in-aid than they would have in a truly competitive market;

9                   c. Whether the Class was injured by Defendants' conduct, and, if so, the  
10 appropriate class-wide measure of damages for the Class; and

11                  d. Whether the Class is entitled to, among other things, injunctive relief, and if  
12 so, the nature and extent of such injunctive relief.

13           294. Defendants have acted in a manner applicable to the Class, thereby making final  
14 injunctive relief appropriate for the Class as a whole.

15           295. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class because the cap on grants-in-aid has injured  
16 both Plaintiff and the members of the Class.

17           296. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class and will protect the claims and  
18 interests of the Class. Plaintiff does not have interests that conflict with those of the Class. Plaintiff  
19 will vigorously prosecute the claims alleged herein and has retained competent counsel with  
20 extensive antitrust and class action litigation experience.

21           297. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient  
22 adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all Class Members is impracticable. The  
23 prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would impose heavy burdens  
24 upon the courts and Defendants, and would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications of  
25 the questions of law and fact common to the Class. A class action, on the other hand, would achieve  
26 substantial economies of time, effort and expense, and would assure uniformity of decision as to  
27 persons similarly situated without sacrificing procedural fairness or bringing about other undesirable  
28 results.





1           304. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the  
2 NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market,  
3 including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract,  
4 combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and  
5 awards available to Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of  
6 Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

7           305. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a  
8 dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to  
9 produce, the following anti-competitive effects, among others:

10           a. competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to  
11 Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor  
12 Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

13           b. Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the benefits of  
14 competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member institutions  
15 that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

16           306. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and the members of  
17 the Class have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts  
18 which are yet to be determined.

19           307. The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Class Members' economic rights are a  
20 naked, *per se* restraint of trade.

21           308. The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and the members of the Class has not yet  
22 been ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from the  
23 NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and  
24 costs of suit.

25           309. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void  
26 and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

27           310. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants  
28 from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

311. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

## SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

### VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE “QUICK LOOK” RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants)

312. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint.

313. As an alternative to Plaintiff’s First Claim for Relief, if the Court determines that Defendants’ conduct does not constitute, in whole or in part, a *per se* antitrust violation, Plaintiff alternatively pleads that Defendants’ conduct, as analyzed in whole or in part via the “quick look” “rule of reason” antitrust analysis, violates the Sherman Act. The anti-competitive nature of Defendants’ agreement is so blatant that a detailed review of the surrounding marketplace is unnecessary. Under this analysis, as the Supreme Court has stated, “an observer with even a rudimentary understanding of economics could conclude that the arrangements in question would have an anti-competitive effect on customers and markets.” Those words equally apply to the present case.

314. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract, combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

315. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to produce, the following anti-competitive effects among others:

1           a.       competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to  
2 Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor  
3 Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

4           b.       Plaintiff and Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the  
5 benefits of competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member  
6 institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

7           316.    As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and the Class  
8 Members have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts  
9 which are yet to be determined.

10          317.    The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Plaintiff's and Class Members'  
11 economic rights are a restraint of trade, and are not connected to any legitimate non-commercial  
12 goals. The purpose of the NCAA's and its members' actions is solely to enhance revenue for  
13 themselves by cutting costs, specifically, to eliminate the need to compete, and to pay any  
14 compensation to Plaintiff and Class Members above the artificially depressed, capped grant-in-aid  
15 limit.

16          318.    The anti-competitive effects of Defendants' scheme substantially outweigh any  
17 alleged pro-competitive effects or justifications that may be offered by Defendants, including that  
18 their collusive conduct is shielded by their self-crafted concept of "amateurism."

19          319.    Reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants' current anti-  
20 competitive practices.

21          320.    The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members have not yet been  
22 ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover  
23 from the NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable attorneys'  
24 fees and costs of suit.

25          321.    Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void  
26 and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

27          322.    Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants  
28 from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

323. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

### THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

#### VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE FULL RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants)

324. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint.

325. As an alternative to Plaintiff's First and Second Claims for Relief, if the Court determines that Defendants' conduct does not constitute, in whole or in part, a *per se* antitrust violation, and that Defendants' conduct should not be analyzed, in whole or in part, via the "quick look" "rule of reason" analysis, Plaintiff alternatively pleads that Defendants' conduct, as analyzed in whole or in part via the full "rule of reason" antitrust analysis, violates the Sherman Act.

326. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract, combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

327. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to produce, the following anti-competitive effects among others:

a. competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to Plaintiff and Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

1           b. Plaintiff and Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the  
2 benefits of competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member  
3 institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

4           328. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and Class Members  
5 have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts which are  
6 yet to be determined.

7           329. The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Plaintiff and Class Members' economic  
8 rights are a restraint of trade, and are not connected to any legitimate non-commercial goals. The  
9 purpose of the NCAA's and its members' actions is solely to enhance revenue for themselves by  
10 cutting costs, specifically, to eliminate the need to compete, and to pay any compensation to Plaintiff  
11 and Class Members above the artificially depressed, capped grant-in-aid limit.

12           330. The anti-competitive effects of Defendants' scheme substantially outweigh any  
13 alleged pro-competitive effects or justifications that may be offered by Defendants, including that  
14 their collusive conduct is shielded by their self-crafted concept of "amateurism."

15           331. Reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants' current anti-  
16 competitive practices.

17           332. The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members has not yet been  
18 ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to  
19 recover from the NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable  
20 attorneys' fees and costs of suit.

21           333. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void  
22 and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

23           334. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants  
24 from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

25           335. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an  
26 External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

**FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

**VIOLATION OF THE UNFAIR COMPETITION ACT,  
CALIFORNIA BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200, *et seq.*  
(Against the NCAA and the PAC 12)**

336. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint. This Count is asserted on behalf of a subclass of players who attended a Power Conference School in California and who received full grants-in-aid.

337. On September 27, 2012, California's Governor signed into law California State Senate Bill No. 1525, the "Student Athlete Bill of Rights," which states, in part, that The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

a. Meeting the educational needs of student-athletes should be a priority for intercollegiate athletic programs;

b. California's institutions of higher education that participate in Division I and Division II intercollegiate athletics collectively generate millions of dollars annually in media contracts, and this revenue would not exist without the efforts of student-athletes;

c. Student-athletes generate large revenues for many athletic programs, spend approximately 40 hours per week participating in their respective sports, and suffer current and historically low graduation rates;

d. Providing adequate health and safety protection for student-athletes can help prevent serious injury and death;

e. Current and former student-athletes can be left to pay for medical expenses incurred from injuries suffered while participating in intercollegiate athletics; and

f. Institutions of higher education should provide their student-athletes with the same due process protection afforded to students who do not participate in athletics.

338. Defendants' conduct and unlawful conspiracy, as alleged above, constituted and constitutes unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in violation of Section 17200, *et seq.* of the California Business and Professions Code. The conduct is unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent because, among other things, it violates the federal Sherman Act as well as California's antitrust laws.



339. Moreover, Defendants' conduct is unfair in that it violates the policy and spirit of the California's Student Athlete Bill of Rights, as well as the policy and spirit of federal and California antitrust law. Defendants' conduct, in depriving Plaintiff and Class Members of basic economic rights, is directly at odds with California's policy of protecting the well-being of California's college athletes.

340. Defendants' conduct has further caused and is causing damage and irreparable injury to Plaintiff and Class Members. Plaintiff and Class Members are accordingly entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits and injunctive relief, plus interest and attorneys' fees, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 and request the following injunctive relief: (a) that Defendants be ordered to cease and desist from continuing to unlawfully depress the potential financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members; and (b) that Defendants disgorge all their profits obtained from the abridgement of Plaintiff's and Class Members' economic rights as described herein.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff and the members of the Class pray for judgment against Defendant NCAA and the Power Conference Defendants as follows:

- A. For actual damages according to the proof at trial;
- B. For treble damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 15;
- C. For a declaratory judgment declaring as void the NCAA's Bylaws that operate to impose a cap on grants-in-aid that NCAA members may provide;
- D. For an injunction restraining the NCAA from enforcing its unlawful and anti-competitive agreement to cap the amount of financial aid available to Class Members;
- E. For Plaintiff's attorneys' fees, costs and expenses;
- F. For such other relief that the Court may deem just and equitable; and
- G. For the appointment of an Antitrust Compliance Monitor.

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated hereby requests a jury trial on any and all claims so triable.

DATED: March 5, 2014

HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP

By: /s/ Jon T. King

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